

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

11 OCTOBER 1983

Lebanon

Arrangements for Dialogue, Cease-Fire — The "Dialogue Preparatory Committee" will meet on 12 October and the National Dialogue Committee will itself convene on 19 October in B'abda. Beirut radio announced on 10 October. However, while the radio said Syria and Saudi Arabia have accepted B'abda as the venue for the national dialogue, AFP subsequently reported that Walid Junblatt's Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) has rejected holding the talks in B'abda and wants them to take place aboard a Greek ship. Meanwhile, the Security Arrangements Committee unanimously agreed to accept offers by Greece and Italy to provide observers to supervise the cease-fire, according to Beirut radio. Greece confirmed its willingness to send observers in an official statement broadcast by Athens radio. The Italian foreign minister likewise said Italy will consent to a "serious and workable" proposal to send an observer force if the plan is acknowledged by the United Nations, ANSA reported. The new developments concerning the dialogue and the cease-fire arrangements followed U.S. presidential envoy Robert McFarlane's talks with Syrian and Lebanese officials on 9 October, reported by Radio Monte Carlo and Beirut radio. The U.S. envoy did not hold a scheduled meeting in Damascus with PSP leader Junblatt. Radio Monte Carlo disclosed. Junblatt subsequently flew to Romania for talks with President Nicolae Ceausescu. Bucharest radio noted.

Security Situation — Internal security forces will be deployed in the Al-Kharrub region although this has not been implemented because the PSP has not yet approved the arrangements, Beirut radio reported on 9 October. The Phalangist Lebanese Forces declared their willingness to withdraw from the area. Voice of Lebanon radio announced the same day. Nevertheless, Beirut radio subsequently reported renewed clashes in Al-Kharrub and the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio said PSP forces killed two Phalangists in the district. In a separate incident, two U.S. Marines were wounded on 9 October, the Voice of Lebanon reported citing a U.S. spokesman.

PLO Affairs

Relations With Syria, Dissidents — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasser 'Arafat has spoken of "positive signs" that a PLO-Syrian clash is being averted. North Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio reported on 10 October. 'Arafat made the statement after receiving a message from Syrian Defense Companies commander Rif'at al-Asad, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. Earlier, in an official statement carried by SANA, the Syrian Government dismissed 'Arafat's "baseless" claims that Syrian forces are besieging and preparing to attack the Palestinian camps in Tripoli and affirmed that Syria has no intention of fighting "anyone working in the Palestinian arena." Meanwhile, the Fatah dissident leaders met with the leaders of the PFLP, DFLP, and other Palestinian factions in Damascus on 8 and 10 October, according to Radio Monte Carlo. The dissidents called

for a collective leadership for the PLO and all conferees condemned inter-Palestinian clashes, the radio said. Nevertheless, Fatah dissidents and loyalists clashed both in Damascus and near Tripoli on 10 October, according to the radio. The reported clash in the Syrian capital followed Damascus radio's announcement that cadres of the Palestinian Unified Information Department in Syria had declared their support for the "uprising" in Fatah. However, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio broadcast a statement by the department's staff claiming that "armed elements" had infiltrated and occupied their offices, detaining staff in a "terrorist" manner. Earlier, Damascus and Beirut radios reported that three PLO military battalions in Ba'labakk had joined the Fatah dissidents. The Palestinians were surrounded by Syrian forces, who have also prevented Palestinians from all PLO factions from entering Syria, according to PLO spokesmen cited by North Lebanon Voice of Palestine and Baghdad Voice of the Masses radios.

Diplomatic, Organizational Moves — Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah received Khalid al-Hasan, adviser to Yasser 'Arafat, SPA reported on 9 October. Meanwhile, in an *Al-Qabas* interview cited by KUNA, 'Arafat called for a renewed Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue "as the basic entrance to settling the Palestinian and the Middle East questions." In Tunis, the newspaper *Al-Anwar* reported that the PLO is preparing to set up a central broadcasting station to relay programs throughout the Arab world, according to KUNA.

Syria

Responding to U.S. statements on the deployment of new Soviet missiles in Syria, Damascus radio said Syria has the right and duty to secure all means to defend its territory and will not be deterred by any threat. The radio wondered why the United States is concerned about the "possibility" that Syria may acquire sophisticated weapons while it does not worry about reports that Israel is manufacturing nuclear weapons. Another radio commentary said the U.S. disclosure regarding Soviet missiles obtained by Syria is part of a scheme to harm Syria and justify U.S. involvement in Lebanon and its supply of sophisticated weapons to Israel. Earlier, President Hafiz al-Asad told CPSU General Secretary Yuri Andropov in a cable broadcast by Damascus television that the Syrian-Soviet friendship and cooperation treaty has proved its efficiency in resisting "imperialism and Zionism." In Israel, the daily *Ma'ariv* expressed skepticism that the Soviet Union will supply Syria with SS-21's equipped with nuclear warheads and said the United States may have been misled by a Soviet "disinformation" campaign.

Israel

The Knesset approved the Cabinet of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir — which retains Defense Minister Moshe Arens and Minister Without Portfolio Ariel Sharon — by a margin of 7 votes on 10 October, Jerusalem radio announced. In a Knesset

speech prior to the vote broadcast by the radio, Shamir praised former Prime Minister Menahem Begin — absent from the session for health reasons — and viewed Begin's achievements including the treaty with Egypt and the elimination of PLO bases in southern Lebanon. The new prime minister indicated that it will not be possible to reach a settlement in Lebanon unless the joint accord is implemented and urged Syria to withdraw in order for Israel to feel safe enough to pull the IDF back across the border as there is "no absolute necessity" for the presence of Israeli forces in the country. Referring to the Soviet arms being supplied to Syria, Shamir urged foreign powers not to escalate the situation with their advanced military technology. As for the settlements and Palestinian issue, Israel again invites Egypt to enter into autonomy negotiations, as well as Jordanian and "Arab" representatives from "Judaea and Samaria," Shamir said. However, opening up Jewish settlements throughout Eretz Yisra'el is a "holy task" and must not be stopped, he declared. After a speech by Labor Party Chairman Shi'mon Peres broadcast by the radio criticizing Likud foreign and domestic policies, including the settlement policy, Shamir told the Knesset that he is still ready to work for a national unity government despite the opposition's criticism. Later the new Cabinet, meeting for 10 hours, decided to devalue the shekel by 23 percent and to raise the prices of basic commodities by 50 percent, the radio reported.

West Bank Settlements Issue

The increasing number of settlements in the West Bank prompted Egypt to add a new condition for the return of its ambassador to Tel Aviv, an Egyptian diplomat in Israel told Jerusalem radio. Israel must cease its settlements in the West Bank because at the present rate no more land will remain to negotiate over in accordance with the Camp David agreement, the envoy declared. In New York to address a women's conference, Israeli Ambassador Me'ir Rosenne announced that Israel will have to "think twice" before signing any peace treaty with an Arab country if Egypt does not return its envoy to Tel Aviv, according to the radio. Meanwhile, the Israeli paper *Davar* speculated that the increased settlements may drive Jordanian King Husayn to offer to enter negotiations with Israel over the Palestinian issue, thus opening the way for Jordan to receive U.S. military aid which has been withheld because of the lack of negotiations. Later in a speech at a dinner honoring his Romanian counterpart, Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran called the Israeli settlement policy a "harsh blow" to peace opportunities, according to the Amman paper *Ar-Ra'y*. Meanwhile, prospects for settlements in the Jordan Rift valley have been enhanced with the addition of a large amount of reclaimed arable land along the Jordan River, Jerusalem radio reported.

Kohl Visit

Following visits to Jordan and Egypt, FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl met with Saudi King Fahd to discuss the Middle East crisis, according to DPA. Like Jordanian King Husayn and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, King Fahd urged European states to commit themselves more strongly to reviving the Mideast peace process. Earlier an FRG spokesman in Bonn cited by the news agency announced that Kohl wants to use his personal connections to start a new round of negotiations based on new Jordanian

ideas. In a Cairo dinner speech reported by MENA, the chancellor declared that although the FRG cannot present or impose new solutions on the parties in the conflict, it can help to facilitate the negotiating process. He also urged the Arab states and Israel to acknowledge their mutual demands: the recognition of Israel's right to exist as well as of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. Speaking at the same dinner, President Mubarak emphasized that Egypt will not abandon the Palestinian people and also declared that peace will not be achieved as long as the Palestinian issue is not resolved, MENA said.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Aid for Iraq — The five French Super Etendard jets promised earlier to Iraq landed at an Iraqi airfield on 9 October after taking off from a French airbase 2 days earlier, AFP and Paris radio announced. The following day a group of French technicians left for Iraq to assist in maintenance and training, the radio said. While both French Defense Minister Charles Hernu and Minister for External Relations Claude Cheysson refused to confirm or deny the report in remarks reported by the radio, a Tehran radio commentary denounced the transfer and warned France that Iran will turn the Strait of Hormuz into a "quagmire" if Iraq uses the jets to damage Iranian oil resources. Referring to the Iranian threats to close the strait, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz, in an interview with the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Anba* cited by KUNA, stressed that Iraq will not permit Iran to continue to export its oil products while being denied the same right. Meanwhile, a source cited by Tehran radio condemned the expected delivery of U.S. military equipment to Baghdad following an official U.S. announcement taking Iraq off the U.S. arms sales blacklist. In the Tehran Friday prayer sermon broadcast by the radio, Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i also warned the major powers that each missile supplied to Iraq destroys the relations between Iran and each nation providing the weapons.

Iraqi Official on Oil Pipeline — Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan announced that Iraq will be able to fully exploit its oil production as soon as negotiations on a gas pipeline through Turkey as well as expansion of the current oil pipeline through Turkey are completed, KUNA reported.

Libya

French Citizens Detained — Following the arrest of an alleged Libyan terrorist in Paris last week, Tripoli authorities detained 30 French nationals at the airport and prevented them from leaving the country even though all exit papers were in order, according to Paris radio. The French Ministry of External Relations has asked Libya to clarify its action, the radio said.

'Vengeance Day' Against Italy — Demonstrations, speeches, and demands for reparations for wartime damages marked the 13th anniversary of the Italian expulsion from Libya — "Vengeance Day." In a speech broadcast by Tripoli radio, Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi demanded that Italy pay Libya for all the damages suffered while under Italian occupation. If the two countries cannot reach an agreement on this, he declared, then all Libyans who suffered losses during that time will be entitled to "avenge" themselves however they can. Meanwhile, the demand is being "carefully examined" by Italian authorities in consultation with

other allied governments amid hopes that Libya will not forget the links between the two countries, Rome radio's international service reported.

Chadian Conflict — Chadian President Hissein Habre expressed his satisfaction with the Franco-African summit in France and declared that the heads of state at the meeting had recognized the need to help Chad ensure its territorial integrity which to him means the withdrawal of foreign troops, AFP reported. Meanwhile, Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) President Goukouni Oueddei reiterated his call for the Chadian conflict to be resolved within the OAU, according to remarks reported by JANA. He also told AFP that he is "ready to go to Ndjamena to negotiate" with Habre as long as French forces allow GUNT units to go with him because he still doesn't trust Habre. Habre will not agree to hold "honest discussions" as long as French troops remain in Chad, the GUNT president declared.

Al-'Ubaydi on Sidra Inviolability — Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi told the UN General Assembly in a speech reported by JANA that due to continuing U.S. "provocations" in the Gulf of Sidra, the Libyan Air Force has been ordered "to strike at any target that violates Libyan territorial waters and airspace."

Algeria

A National Liberation Front delegation met with CPSU Central Committee Secretaries Konstantin Chernenko and Boris Ponomarev during a 3-day visit to Moscow, according to Moscow radio. In the joint communique carried by TASS and APS, both

sides praised the relations between Algeria and the USSR, urged Israel to pull out of Lebanon, and stressed the need for an international Middle East conference which would include the PLO in order to find a just solution to the crisis.

Pakistan

As disturbances continued in Sind Province, an antigovernment crowd clashed with police in the Baluchistan capital of Quetta, the first serious incident outside Sind Province, according to AFP. A Quetta district magistrate's press note reported by Karachi radio claimed that the police had returned fire in "self-defense" after the "violent" crowd had attacked them. Meanwhile, 15,000 people gathered in the hitherto quiet Punjab city of Faisalabad to watch the voluntary arrest of a member of the opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, AFP reported. President Mohammad Ziaul Haq continued to insist that the domestic situation is satisfactory except for a few "isolated" incidents in one province, according to the paper *Nawa-e Waqt*.

Afghanistan

In an interview with BAKHTAR, a Foreign Ministry spokesman denied Pakistani claims that DRA aircraft bombed Pakistani border villages while chasing rebel forces last week and linked the accusations with current Pakistani domestic unrest and the recent visit to Pakistan by U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. As clashes between rebel forces and Soviet-DRA Government troops continue, rebel bands are beginning to struggle among themselves over the division of U.S. financial aid, BAKHTAR claimed.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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'Arafat Loses Last Position in Al-Biqa'

NC071302 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT
7 Oct 83

[Text] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat today lost his last combat position within the Fatah movement in the Al-Biqa' and Ba'labakk areas. Three armed battalions of the Al-Karamah forces have joined the rebellion movement opposed to 'Arafat's leadership. Lieutenant Colonel Abu Al-Majd, an aide of Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], military commander of the rebellion, told correspondents in Ba'labakk that these battalions include 400 fighters from various military ranks.

Major 'Adnan Hasan, who spoke to correspondents at the headquarters of the Al-Karamah Command in Ba'labakk, which was occupied by Ghazi 'Atallah, who left Ba'labakk a week ago, said: "We waited over 5 months for 'Arafat's command to agree to the just and legitimate demands which the rebellion movement made. However, the command stalled and we had no alternative but to declare our joining the rebellion and to put ourselves at the disposal of Colonel Abu Musa. We left the remaining fighters in these battalions free to opt between joining us or leaving."

Major Hasan criticized 'Arafat's policy. He said that the overwhelming majority of Fatah fighters reject this policy and that these fighters will not leave Lebanon — as 'Arafat's command wishes — to be distributed among Arab countries distant from the battlefield with the Zionist enemy. He added that they adhere to Fatah's unity and to the armed struggle which 'Arafat wants to end in favor of political engagement.

Fatah Foils Dissidents Attack in Nahr al-Barid

JN101711 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT
10 Oct 83

[Text] A state of severe tension reigned in northern Lebanon as agent groups of Ahmad Jibril and his allies, backed by Syrian artillery, launched an attack on our forces in Nahr al-Barid. The attack lasted for 3 hours. Our forces were able to repulse and foil the attack, forcing the attackers to withdraw behind the Syrian lines.

Palestinian Clashes Reported in North 10 Oct

NC100818 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT
10 Oct 83

[Text] Security reports received from the north indicate that a clash broke out between the pro-'Arafat group and dissidents in which various types of arms were used. The sources indicate that the clash broke out at 0200 today when a pro-'Arafat position at the Wadi al-Jamus intersection near Al-Barid camp was exposed to gunfire from the hills near the position. The clash lasted until 0500. Two persons were killed and three others were wounded.

Meanwhile, 'Arafat is continuing his inspection visit of the bases attached to him in the Al-Baddawi and Al-Barid camps. Yesterday he visited the bases in the slopes of Al-Minyah, in Markibta gardens, and in the outskirts of Bhannin. He was accompanied by several PLO officials.

VOL on Fighting in Tripoli

NC101054 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT
10 Oct 83

[Text] In Tripoli, 'Abd ar-Rahman, spokesman for Fatah supporters, has stated that 'Arafat's forces this morning destroyed three guns and four rocket launchers mounted on vehicles belonging to the dissidents during the clashes that occurred in Al-Barid camp. Some four Palestinians were wounded in the clashes.

After holding Syria responsible for what is happening in the north and accusing Syrian intelligence of instigating the dissidents and the Popular Front against Fatah, the spokesman said the dissidents withdrew to behind the lines of the Syrian Army, which has been put on alert.

'Arafat Says He Will Not Leave Tripoli

JN081648 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT
8 Oct 83

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has said that he does not intend to leave the Tripoli area and will stay with his fighters and people. Speaking to reporters, Abu 'Ammar added that the Syrians have sent two armored battalions, special forces, and commandos amounting to 12,000 men in addition to the forces that were present in the northern region. He said that they have moved to a point 200 meters from the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid camps. Abu 'Ammar said: "The Syrians did not intervene when the U.S. fleet reached Lebanon during the recent conflict, but they are now massing their forces around me. He added: "The Syrians want to keep the Palestinian card in their hands, but we are not pawns."

Answering a question on whether he expects a confrontation with the Syrians, Abu 'Ammar said: "Undoubtedly, they are preparing for such a thing. This may happen within 48-72 hours. He said that he was not in contact with the Syrian president. He said: "I am doing what I can to avoid a clash with the Syrians but, at the same time, my duty is to protect my people and revolution. Answering a question on reports which say that Syria supports steps aimed at replacing him as leader of the Fatah movement and the PLO, Abu 'Ammar said: "This is one of the issues which the Syrians imagine they can do, but I do not think they have the power to do that because I have not reached this position through a military coup. I reached this position through a democratic Palestinian decision."

'Arafat said that Saudi King Fahd sent a letter to him the day before yesterday inviting him for talks. He added: "But I prefer to remain at the side of my people and men."

PLO's 'Arafat reportedly Departs for Jordan

JN100642 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic
0605 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat has left for Amman to discuss the PLO situation with Jordanian officials.

VOL. Cites 'Arafat on Syrian Troop Concentrations

NC072208 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT
7 Oct 83

[Text] The situation in the north continues to rouse strong anxiety particularly in light of the big Syrian military concentrations around the areas where the Palestinians are present. In the past few days the Syrians sent two new armored brigades as well as forces of paratroopers reinforced with tanks and heavy artillery. All this made Yasir 'Arafat fear that the Syrians will complete in the north what the Israelis began in Beirut. 'Arafat expects a confrontation with the Syrian forces in 2 or 3 days. He emphasized that he will not leave the area and will remain with his fighters and with the approximately 400,000 Palestinian refugees.

'Arafat told newsmen that the Syrians have sent two armored units, special forces and commandos totalling 12,000 men in addition to the forces already in the area. All these, according to 'Arafat, have moved to a distance of 200 meters from the camps. He added: The Syrians did not interfere when the U.S. fleet arrived in Lebanon and they are concentrating themselves around me. The Syrians, who are supporting the forces hostile to the Lebanese Government, want to leave the Palestinian card in their hand but we are not chess pawns.

Abu Salih [Nimr Salim], a dissident leader, has said that 'Arafat is seeking to leave Tripoli. He accused 'Arafat and Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] of [agreeing] to get the Palestinians out of Lebanon.

'Arafat Addresses Meeting in Tripoli 7 Oct

NC080937 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0600
GMT 8 Oct 83

[Speech by Yasir 'Arafat — identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar — PLO Executive Committee chairman and Palestinian revolution forces commander in chief, at a celebration held in Tripoli, Lebanon on 7 October by the Islamic Unification Movement on the occasion of the new Hegira year — recorded]

[Text] We meet here on this good earth and among the faithful to celebrate this blessed occasion — the Hegira, the emigration of Prophet Muhammad from Mecca to Medina. This meeting confirms the sublime meaning of the noble occasion. Brothers, kinfolk and friends: This occasion reiterates that this nation will triumph, triumph, and triumph with God's help.

Brothers, I am pleased to be with the hero citizens of Tripoli to renew the pledge and oath at this difficult time through which our Arab nation is passing. These are historical and fateful moments in which the hearts and faith are put to the test. I declare that what is taking place in Lebanon is not coincidental. A few years ago the United States and Europe tried to plant an alien body in our nation and region. This was later followed by the partition of Palestine. They called it the partition of Palestine, but they actually devoured all Palestine. They are now talking about the partition of Lebanon, but they mean to devour all Lebanon.

In Palestine, they partitioned the land and displaced the people. But here it is more grave. They partitioned the land and have regrettably managed to divide the people. They know that the partition of land is not enough to implement their plots. That is why they have been trying to partition the land and to divide the people. This is quite serious for our nation.

I recall that 1 and 1/2 year ago, namely before the war, I warned the nation that the enemies were charting a new political map in the region prior to balkanizing the region. We are now facing the same situation that we had faced in Beirut — a land, air, and naval siege. It is not coincidental that last month [words indistinct] including medical and food supplies. There have also been increasing military reinforcements around this steadfast area. It is therefore something planned. What they had failed to achieve in Beirut they are now trying to achieve here in Tripoli. Therefore, I must warn our Arab and Islamic nation of the dangers ahead of us. This danger concerns not only the Arabs and Muslims; it concerns the citizens of this area. [Sentence indistinct] It is my duty to warn on this occasion — the occasion of the noble and blessed hegira and jihad — and to remind my hero citizens here in Tripoli that we have difficult days ahead of us. It is going to be a difficult test. But I can tell you: There is always light after darkness. The hearts of weak people usually shake at difficult times, but the hearts of the faithful never shake, because their hearts are full of faith.

We have to stand fast because victory is ours. [Sentence indistinct] There can be no weapons or armies that will shake the faith of the faithful who is defending his nation, homeland, presence, and dignity.

Let me tell all those surrounding us, be they the Israelis in the sea or others, what God almighty said: [Indistinct Koranic verse] I say this at these critical moments. Let the far and near listen to me. It is absolutely not coincidental that three warnings have been leveled against us: Three U.S. warnings by Reagan, Shultz, and the White House and State Department official spokesmen. These were then followed by Israeli warnings by Arens and Shamir and other military leaders. [Sentence indistinct] I say it is absolutely not coincidental for such successive warnings to be leveled against us. However, what is important is steadfastness because the battle is difficult. Blessed be those strugglers and faithful who are creating history. I wish to thank you all for giving me this valuable chance to talk to you. [Indistinct Koranic verse][applause]

PLO Commander Sends Support Cable to 'Arafat

JN091740 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT
9 Oct 83

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] received a cable from the commander and cadres of the Salah ad-Din camp, which was recently seized by the Syrian authority in the Damascus suburbs. The following is the text of the cable:

From the commander and cadres of Salah ad-Din camp to the commander in chief Brother Abu 'Ammar and the deputy commander in chief Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Qazir].

We, the individuals and cadres of Salah ad-Din camp, promise you that we will remain loyal and faithful to our revolution and movement. We wish to inform you that the camp has been handed over under pressure and the force of arms. However, we will remain at your disposal and adhere to your orders. We will remain under wise and rational leadership. May you live long to serve the revolution. It is a revolution until victory.

'Arafat Answers Cable

JN101717 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT
10 Oct 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has stated that we will continue marching together toward victory in Palestine despite the plot and the plotters. This came in the reply cable Brother Abu 'Ammar sent to the commander of the Salah ad-Din camp. The commander had earlier sent a cable confirming, in his name and on behalf of the camp's officers and soldiers, that they would remain at the disposal of brother leader Abu 'Ammar although the Syrian authorities had seized the camp by means of force.

'Arafat on Relations with Syria, Junblatt, Jordan

LD090859 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0718 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, 9 Oct (KUNA) — PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, in press statements published here today, again said that Syria is preparing to carry out a military operation against his forces in northern Lebanon. In an interview for the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Qabas* given at his headquarters in Tripoli, he said that he had asked the leaders of the Arab countries to exert their influence with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad so as to resolve this "complicated and grave" situation. 'Arafat did not indicate if these contacts produced results. He warned that Palestinian-Syrian righting could break out at any moment.

Syria last night declared that it does not intend to fight any Palestinian side. It said that the fighting that took place in the Lebanese Al-Biq'a Valley in the summer, and in Tripoli a few days ago, was fighting between opposed Palestinian sides and that any future fighting in these areas will also be so. Syria was referring to the dispute within the 'Arafat-led Fatah movement.

The Palestinian leader said that what Syria is doing at present against forces loyal to him in Lebanon is part of the cease-fire agreement in Lebanon which was reached through Saudi-Syrian-American mediation on the 25th of last month. In this respect he underlined the coincidence in timing of the announcement of the cease-fire agreement with the Syrian order for his forces to leave the central Al-Biq'a Valley. He said that the matter was "part of the agreement with the American Government in this connection." He added that "what had happened in Al-Biq'a, and what is happening in the north are comprehensively linked with the overall agreements which are taking place at present on the Lebanese arena."

'Arafat said that he had carried out contacts with Syrian leaders, whom he did not specify, in Damascus and Lebanon, and with

Arab sides which he did not name "to avoid slipping into a serious situation." He added: "We are anxious to prevent the situation from becoming explosive and in this field we are exerting intensified efforts. However, we have been unable to make any progress."

He called on Arabs to be "on a level of responsibility to confront imminent dangers. As an Arab nation, what is happening in the region is a major plot not against us alone or against Lebanon itself, but against the entire Arab nation."

'Arafat returned to Tripoli on the 17th of last month for the first time since being deported by Syria from its territory on 24 June, after his repeated accusations levelled at Damascus that it stood behind those who oppose him in Fatah.

The Palestinian leader refused to answer a question about the nature of his relationship with Walid Junblatt, the leader of the opposition National Salvation Front and the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, whose forces were the major party in fighting the Lebanese Government Army and the rightwing Phalangist militias throughout last month. Junblatt has levelled repeated criticism at 'Arafat's leadership and has declared his support for the opposition movement in Fatah headed by Nimr Salih — Abu Salih.

'Arafat expressed his readiness to resume a Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue "as the basic entrance to settling the Palestinian and the Middle East questions." He called for the misunderstanding, as he calls it, which led to the break in this dialogue last April, to be surmounted so as "to confront what we Palestinians and Jordanians in particular will be facing." Jordan unilaterally stopped the dialogue on the 10 April after the Liberation Organization refused to grant King Husayn the right to speak on its behalf in any Middle East negotiations.

'Arafat Sees 'Positive Signs' Preventing Clashes

NC100702 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic
0645 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has said there are positive signs that clashes are being prevented between the Palestinian revolution fighters and the Syrian forces. However, there is still a big margin between the continuing concentrations of the Syrian forces and the efforts being exerted to settle the differences with Syria.

In an interview with AFP, Brother Abu 'Ammar added that the Fatah forces do not want to clash with the Syrian forces and that they withdrew from the Lebanese Al-Biq'a Valley to avoid a confrontation with the Syrian forces.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said he addressed an appeal to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to stop the Syrian forces' operations against the Palestinians and to refrain from any action that could be a new disaster for the Palestinian people.

DPA: 'Arafat Affirms Palestinians Support Him*LD101846 Hamburg DPA in German 1736 GMT 10 Oct 83*

[Text] Tripoli, Lebanon, 10 Oct (DPA) Yasir 'Arafat, PLO and Fatah chairman has denied Syrian claims that the majority of the Palestinian fighters no longer support his leadership.

In an interview with DPA at PLO headquarters north of Tripoli today, he said that "while some groups, as so often in the history of our liberation struggle, separated from us, the people in the Palestinian camps and the Fatah fighters are backing the elected leadership and myself."

Only "insignificant groups" had allowed themselves to be recruited by the Syrian intelligence service and exploited on behalf of the "Syrian-U.S. plot to liquidate the PLO. I have been elected by an autonomous decision of the organization and shall fight for the Palestinian cause." The PLO is not split. The PLO "is no pawn in the Middle East but remains the most important piece in the region. Without it there will be no agreement, no peace in the Middle East," he said.

Because of poor living conditions in many camps and the difficulties the PLO has experienced since its founding, individuals and small groups keep leaving the liberation movement. Some had become "Trojan horses" of foreign powers within the PLO. Some "Arab states are plying them with money in order to use them."

'Arafat, who predicted at the weekend an inevitable clash between Syrian troops and PLO fighters in northern Lebanon, hinted in the interview at an easing of the situation. His appeals to Syria's President al-Asad, contacts with Al-Asad's brother, messages to Arab leaders, and the exchange of further messages between himself and Soviet President Yuriy Andropov "encourage us in the hope that there will be no military conflict. However, the Syrians are still reinforcing their troops around Palestinian positions in the north." 'Arafat said that he was "satisfied" with the Soviet role in the conflict between Damascus and the PLO leadership.

He said that in hindsight, the PLO decision in the summer after the Israeli invasion and attacks on Beirut to leave the Lebanese capital had been right. It had been the only possible way to save the lives of many women, children, and men in view of the brutal Israeli assaults. "I would act the same way today."

The PLO withdrawal from Beirut in the summer of 1982 is considered the main cause for the current conflicts within the PLO.

'Arafat believes that the PLO has by no means been unsuccessful in fighting for its rights. The recent Israeli withdrawal in Lebanon and Begin's resignation had been a late success of the longest ever Arab-Israeli war, sustained by the heroism of the Palestinian fighters during the Israeli invasion of 1982. The military struggle against Israel continues unabated, 'Arafat said.

King Fahd Cables PLO's 'Arafat on Current Events*NC072137 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1915 GMT 7 Oct 83*

[Text] King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz expressed his concern to Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, over the events the Arab area is experiencing. He stressed Saudi Arabia's [words indistinct] to regain the Arab rights, primarily the Palestinian rights.

In his message to Abu 'Ammar, King Fahd said: I share your concern over the current events and affirm to Your Excellency that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is seeking sincerely to heal the rift and bring the views of the Arab brothers closer. With these continued efforts, Saudi Arabia aims to preserve the Arab rights and highlight the Arab nation's issues, primarily the Palestinian people's cause and their aspirations to regain their usurped rights and establish their independent state.

Al-Wazir on U.S.-Syrian Plot Against PLO*NC080033 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1915 GMT 7 Oct 83*

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution forces, said that the attacks to which the Palestinian revolution forces are being subjected are an attempt to complete the aggressive war that was launched by the Zionist enemy in the summer of last year to open the way for President Reagan's plan. This is particularly so after the PLO asserted its ability to block the way for any political solutions that do not fulfill the Palestinian people's rights and aspirations, particularly since this Syrian aggression serves the enemy and his goals, aims at making our people in the occupied homeland despair, and strikes at their valiant patriotic steadfastness.

In a speech before the Palestinian revolution fighters, Abu Jihad said: Today we are facing the fiercest link in the schemes aimed at striking at the Palestinian revolution, usurping its national independent decisionmaking and undermine the aspirations of our people for freedom and independence. He added: Our fate as free revolutionaries is to stand up firmly and stubbornly and be ready to face the danger posed by an Arab country, which we would have liked to have stood with us in the same front trench to confront the continued Zionist aggression on our people, homeland, and revolution.

Abu Jihad said: We regret to say that the fate of any aggression against us will not be better than the fate of the Zionist invasion. As we faced the U.S.-Israeli political decision during the war last summer we will face the U.S.-Syrian decision with the same firmness and faith in assured triumph. Abu Jihad said: Our only concern is to fight the Zionist enemy and liberate our usurped land. But what is happening now imposes new concerns on us as a result of the Syrian regime's dreams of hegemony and containment, particularly after the U.S. administration revived a new option in the area — the Syrian option, which we believed that the Syrian regime bypassed after the 1976 events.

Abu Jihad pointed to the several attempts to stop the deteriorating relations with the Syrian regime, saying that this regime did not respond to any overtures, because it has been planning for a long time to bring the Palestinian revolution to its knees and to usurp the Palestinian people's free will represented in the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Referring to the military situation, Abu Jihad said: With all humility, I affirm that our military situation is good and our preparedness is obvious. We are awaiting a large-scale military operation for which several armored and artillery brigades, rockets, special units, and Palestinian groups have so far been massed. This is in addition to the Palestinian groups who have betrayed their people. These Palestinian groups are acting to again place the fate and resources of the Palestinian people in the hands of the Arab regimes. Abu Jihad said: The wheel of history will not go back and our people will never cede their right of representation to any Arab ruler, whatever the circumstances. Our fighters will not be intimidated by the fall of some defeatists or those who have been tempted by the Syrian intelligence organs and its tools.

Abu Jihad said the military aim of this operation they are preparing for is to try to liquidate the Palestinian revolution and to disarm its fighters. Those who are behind it are planning to dominate the PLO, using the Syrian intelligence services and their tools directly.

Referring to the Arab and international situations and to the PLO's political activity to confront this possible situation, he said: We are moving quickly to hold an expanded popular Palestinian conference attended by all Palestinian functionaries and representatives of the conscious national position, which is expressed by the masses of our steadfast people in the occupied land. This position has been steady and growing with every new day. This is in addition to preparing for an emergency session of the PNC. On the Arab level, active preparations are underway, which will be crowned by a Palestinian invitation for several Arab meetings to discuss the Syrian aggression against the Palestinian revolution. In addition, preparations are under way to convene an expanded Arab conference to express a national Arab stand vis-a-vis possible Syrian moves. We are also seeking to prepare for a large-scale international meeting in which all friendly and peace-loving forces in the world can participate.

Abu Jihad further said: We are confident that the Soviet Union and the socialist bloc are living in the same bitterness that accompanied the events of 1976. We, however, feel that they stand on our side, because what is between us is an alliance among strugglers for freedom, justice, equality, and peace. We do not believe that the Soviet Union is satisfied with the Syrian-U.S. option in the Middle East area. He pointed out that the Soviets understand our motives in adhering to the national independent Palestinian decisionmaking and feel bitter about what is happening in the national Arab front.

Concluding his speech, Abu Jihad said: We will not aim our rifles at the Syrian Arab army except in self-defense, as this is a legal right in the event the expected Syrian attack takes place. It is not easy for us to turn our rifles from the Zionist enemy to aim them at our Arab brothers. There is a partnership in blood,

common fate, history and cause between the fedayeen and Syrian Arab soldiers. We are confident of the integrity of the fighters, both officers and soldiers, in the Syrian Arab army as well as their concern not to shed the blood of fedayeen or Palestinian citizens. It would be an abnormal page in the history of this Arab army, should it attack the Palestinian revolution.

Salah Khalaf on Dispute With Syria, Soviet Support *NC081023 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic* 0645 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Text] Brothers Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] and Abu al-Adib [Salim Az-Za'nun], Fatah Central Committee members, held an open talk with Palestinian and Arab writers and journalists in Kuwait. During the talk, Brother Abu Iyad dealt with the developments in the Palestinian and Arab situation. He reviewed the crisis that the Libyan- and Syrian-backed dissidents had created. Brother Abu Iyad accused the dissidents of attempting to obstruct the revolution's march and to divert it from its course. He pointed out that the situation has reached a decisive point where the PLO's structure is being threatened.

Reviewing the origin of dispute with Syria, Brother Abu Iyad said the dispute was generated by Syria's desire to control the independent Palestinian decisionmaking. He said: Our national decision should be independent in defense of the revolution's right, as is the case with Syria or any other Arab country wishing to serve its national decision.

After enumerating Syria's attempts to intervene in Palestinian affairs, Brother Abu Iyad confirmed that bloody clashes had actually occurred between Syria and the Palestinian revolution in Lebanon. He said Syria listened to some false reports from Abu Salih [Nimr Salih] and Abu Musa [Musa Sa'id Muragha]. He strongly criticized some of the PLO Executive Committee members who act as representatives of some Arab countries. He said the dissidents have shed Palestinian blood in the service of certain Arab regimes. The dissidents even surpassed their previous actions when they formed a command committee under Abu Salih.

On the situation in Tripoli, Brother Abu Iyad said: Our position is good and our relationship with our Lebanese brothers is also good. Brother Abu Iyad praised the stand of the friendly Soviet Union, adding that the Soviet Union has on so many occasions expressed support for the PLO led by Brother Abu 'Ammar.

At the end of the talk, Brothers Abu Iyad and Abu al-Adib answered all the questions that dealt with the various aspects of the situation.

UAE Paper Reports on New PLO Reconciliation Plans *GF081044 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0940 GMT 8 Oct 83*

[Text] Ash-Shariqah, 8 Oct (WAKH) — Today's issue of the Ash-Shariqah-based newspaper *Al-Khalij* reported from Damascus that a number of Arab leaders and senior PLO officials will meet in Aden on 14 October to discuss the develop-

ments of the situation on the Palestinian arena and the current situation in Lebanon.

Quoting very high-level Palestinian sources, the newspaper speculated that the current PLO differences will be discussed in a positive and responsible spirit in a way that will remove these differences and achieve a comprehensive Palestinian reconciliation.

Quoting a Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) source, the paper reported that the PFLP has finished preparing a practical program for democratic reform within the PLO, which is also related to the current situation in Fatah. The newspaper said: Dr. George Habash, PFLP secretary general, is leading the meetings of the PFLP's Political Bureau and the joint leadership of the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine to reach a formula to restore Fatah unity and maintain the PLO Unity.

Al-Khalij said: Habash's visit to Algiers recently focussed on this issue and Algeria supported Dr Habash's stand in calling for a decisive stand to eliminate the current impasse in the Palestinian revolution.

A PLO leader told the newspaper that the program is based on the Palestinian revolution's interest and the unity of struggle and that it is not in any one's interest to announce the program until after it has been approved by leaders of Palestinian action.

The leader said the expected formula will be approved by all because it has been based on the PNC resolutions and the political programs and internal systems of the Palestinian revolution factions.

A PFLP source has described the situation in Tripoli as complicated and very serious. "There are concentrations and counter-concentrations and if no quick solution is reached for all the current problems, the chance will slip away from all," the source said.

Fatah's Sa'id Musa Criticizes 'Arafat's Practices

JN081746 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Text] Colonel Sa'id Musa, one of the military commanders in Fatah, has announced that there will never be any Palestinian decision in Lebanese territories except the national decision and that the anti-national decision should remove itself and practice its political mistakes. He added that the anti-national side will be responsible to the Palestinian people and the Arab nation.

In an interview with Arab and foreign correspondents in Ba'labakk yesterday, Col Sa'id Musa, alias Abu Musa, said: Now we are able to control the course of battle and lead the conflict. Yasir 'Arafat has lost everything except making statements that harm the Palestinian and Lebanese struggle. He added that these statements will have a harmful effect on 'Arafat himself.

Abu Musa also talked about 'Arafat's group in northern Lebanon and asserted that it is only a small group that is hiding itself in

an inhabited part of Tripoli and practicing the same mistakes, which it practiced in southern Lebanon, Beirut, and Jordan. Abu Musa also accused 'Arafat's group of instigating Palestinians to fight each other and said: 'Arafat's supporters are creating events and internecine fighting at a time when we conduct a democratic dialogue among our cadres based on persuasion and dialogue.

Abu Musa also said: We have won the battle and the majority of Fatah's civilian and military cadres are supporting us. At the same time, he stressed the importance of democratic dialogue within the Fatah movement. He added: We adhere to the unity of Fatah and to the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people, and we fight to preserve the PLO's institutions. He continued: We are working in accordance with democracy within the Fatah movement and we call for convening a general conference of the movement as soon as possible so we can form the forthcoming leadership of Fatah. He said if 'Arafat refused that call and does not adopt our demands, the Fatah civilian and military cadres would determine 'Arafat's future and the results of the general conference. He concluded: We insist on convening the conference whether 'Arafat agrees or not because we are against individualism and arrogance and because the overwhelming majority of the Fatah civilian and military cadres support us. Other Palestinian groups are also sympathetic with us.

Palestinian Leaders Meet in Damascus 8 October

JN091331 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Text] Informed Palestinian sources said that a meeting comprising most of the leaders of the Palestinian resistance factions was held in Damascus last night in the absence of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and his loyalist leaders. The meeting was held in the PNC's offices in Damascus.

Following the meeting, Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], leader of the Fatah opposition wing, stated that talks dealt with the subject of reforms within the Palestinian institutions and with the establishment of a balance between the political and military leaderships of the resistance within the PLO and in Lebanon. Abu Salih stressed that this meeting will be followed by other meetings and that the decisions which will be adopted during these meetings will be both valid and binding because the participants represent the highest Palestinian bodies.

Dr George Habash, secretary general of the PFLP; Nayif Hawatimah, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine; Ahmad Jibril, leader of the PFLP-GC; Tal'at Ya'qub, leader of the Palestinian Liberation Front; Samir Ghawshah, leader of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front; Khalid al-Fahum, the PNC speaker; and 'Abd al-Muhsein Abu Mayzar, PLO Executive Committee member, attended last night's meeting, in addition to the Fatah opposition movement leaders, headed by Abu Salih.

This meeting was held at a time when there is talk about the possible adoption of radical measures regarding the PLO leadership.

Further on Damascus Meeting

JN091830 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT
9 Oct 83

[Telephone dispatch from Louis Faris, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus — live or recorded]

[Excerpt] Very important meetings were held here last night. At a high-level meeting the Fatah opposition wing called for the formation of a collective leadership from all the Palestinian resistance factions in order to lead the Palestinian action in the forthcoming stage. This occurs at a time when Syria said that it does not intend to fight any Palestinian faction.

Informed Palestinian sources said this call was made by Nimr Salih, alias Abu Salih, leader of the Fatah opposition wing, at an extensive meeting held all night long in the presence of PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum, the general secretaries of the various resistance organizations, and some PLO Executive Committee members. Abu 'Ammar as-Sa'id, 'Arafat's representative in Syria, also attended the meeting.

During this meeting, Abu Salih called for the formation of a collective leadership comprising all the Palestinian organizations in order to lead the coming stage of Palestinian action. He also called for the formation of an information committee from representatives of all the factions to supervise the Palestinian news agency, WAFA, instead — as he said — of keeping this agency in the service of Yasir 'Arafat's personal information purposes.

These sources said that during this meeting, Abu Salih turned down a proposal by some neutral figures to form a new committee to reconcile the two conflicting Fatah wings. He was cited as saying that the opposition movement had earlier approved a memorandum submitted by a [PLO] Central Council mediation delegation, which contained solutions to the Fatah crisis. Abu Salih said that 'Arafat refused to abide by this memorandum and, therefore, the opposition movement today rejects the formation of a new committee because the overwhelming majority of the Fatah military and civil cadres stand on the side of the opposition movement, which adheres to its demands as unanimously put forward by all the Palestinian organizations.

Following the meeting, Khalid al-Fahum declined to make any statement. However, he stressed that these Palestinian meetings will continue tonight or most probably tomorrow.

Reaction to Damascus Meeting

JN101822 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT
10 Oct 83

[Text] Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat's forces in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, today played down the importance of the meeting held in Damascus on Saturday evening by high-ranking Palestinian leaders in the absence of Yasir 'Arafat and in the presence of the Fatah dissident movement leaders.

Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman, official in charge of the Fatah Information Department, announced in Tripoli today that PNC

Speaker Khalid al-Fahum, who is a member of the Fatah [as heard] Central Committee mediation body, was the one who called for this meeting, during which the dissidents were allowed to express their views.

'Abd ar-Rahman indicated the need for a new meeting in the presence of Muhammad Ghunaym, alias Abu Mahir, Fatah's official representative in Damascus.

In another development the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine issued a statement in which they said that the meeting was aimed at preventing any fragmentation or division with the PLO and at protecting the Palestinian forces. They added that talks dealt with the means to preserve the PLO's political program which the collective Palestinian leadership should respect. The statement indicates that the participation of the two fronts' leaders in the meeting was dictated by a desire to seriously discuss the efforts required to safeguard the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative, against the impending dangers.

Second Meeting Held 10 Oct

JN110709 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT
11 Oct 83

[Text] In Damascus last night, the leaders of the Palestinian resistance groups held their second meeting in 3 days in the absence of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and pro-'Arafat leaders. According to PNC speaker Khalid al-Fahum, the meeting was also held in the absence of the Fatah opposition leaders who this time were not invited.

Al-Fahum said that discussions during this meeting which was held in his office centered on the necessity to stop internal Palestinian battles and the attack on Palestinian institutions. He also said that the conferees strongly condemned every clash that took place between the Palestinian whether in northern Lebanon or anywhere else.

According to Al-Fahum also, the conferees agreed to create the right atmosphere to discuss the necessary solutions to internal differences through democratic dialogue in order to safeguard the PLO's unity and independence on the basis of the political program which was adopted by the organization and which much be respected by the collective Palestinian leadership.

Syria Bans Entry of Palestinian Fighters

JN101650 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1600 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] Beirut — Fatah spokesman Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman today said that the Syrian forces yesterday prevented all Palestinian fighters in northern Lebanon from entering Syria.

The spokesman added that this decision, which was adopted by the Syrian intelligence organs, applies to all the resistance organizations, and not only to those loyal to Fatah. He said that all the transit and travel permits the Syrian forces had earlier given to the Palestinian fighters are no longer valid.

Fatah Dissidents Besiege Wafa Damascus Office*NC101626 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT
10 Oct 83*

[Text] The Palestinian news agency, Wafa, said its office in Damascus will not join the dissidents, who have been besieging the Wafa office in Damascus since this morning. The dissidents declared in Damascus that the Wafa employees in Damascus have joined their movement.

Wafa Cited on Damascus Office*JN101546 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT
10 Oct 83*

[Excerpt] Wafa announced in Tunis that the Wafa Damascus office has not joined the Fatah opposition movement and that the office was occupied by the opposition elements. The opposition elements had earlier issued a statement stressing that the Fatah cadres in the Wafa Damascus office had joined the ranks opposing Yasser Arafat's leadership.

PLO Statement on Seizure*JN091850 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1609 GMT
9 Oct 83*

[Text] O brothers, following the occupation of the Fatah movement's offices in Damascus, especially the Unified Information Department offices, the Unified Information Department held a press conference at the headquarters of the Palestinian Writers and Journalists Association in Damascus, and Brother Khalil az-Zaban read the following statement before the reporters and in the presence of all the information cadres:

Statement to the brothers and colleagues, representatives of the press, and all the Arab and international news agencies in Syria:

O dear brothers and colleagues: I am pleased to welcome you on behalf of the Palestinian Information Department, the official PLO spokesman since its formation by a PNC decision in 1972 to strengthen our national unity. This department raised and continues to raise the flags of our national struggle in all its political, military, diplomatic, and popular forms through you, as press colleagues, and through your news agencies, radios, and forums that have played an essential role in covering and revealing the developments in our people's revolutionary struggle and their just cause against our tyrannical Zionist enemy and its U.S. ally to the Arab and international public opinion. It has also contributed to the success of our informational duties.

We have invited you to inform you that the Palestinian Unified Department offices and all its divisions in Syria, including Wafa, the radio monitoring, the press report, the foreign information, the cinema and photography, the archives and documentation, the theater, the illustrative arts section, and the information department were occupied yesterday, Saturday, 8 October, by armed elements that claim reformation. They secretly infiltrated the headquarters of Wafa, where they detained, in a terrorist manner, the editors and employees who had prepared Wafa newscasts and the daily press report as well

as radio newscasts to be distributed as usual. They also prevented the distribution of news items. At the same time, another armed group stormed sections of the cinema and photography section, the documentation section, the archives, and the theater after they had broken the doors and confiscated some of their contents.

We view these military actions and the occupation of the Fatah movement's offices as a blow to the principle of democratic dialogue that we had adopted as a method to correct the course of the Palestinian nationalist work — a principle that was asserted by all the groups of the Palestinian revolution since the beginning of the internal crisis. We also view the step to occupy our offices yesterday as flagrant escalation and a dangerous sign that cannot be tolerated because it harms the PLO and paralyzes its legitimate institutions; institutions that we use to safeguard, protect, and develop their work, because these institutions are the achievements of our Palestinian Arab people through their long-standing and continued struggle over scores of years.

We call on the PNC speaker, all members of the Executive Committee, secretaries general, and all the brothers of the various Palestinian groups to assume their responsibilities and stop these flagrant aggressions against the PLO institutions. We call on them to prevent similar steps from harming the unity of the PLO and our national struggle, which is being exposed to impending Zionist dangers that are aimed at liquidating it and ending its struggle.

Here, we must point out and draw attention to the fact that in our capacity as officials, cadres, and workers in the various sections of the Unified Information Department in Syria, we have been exerting honorable efforts from the beginning of the internal problem. This is confirmed by the testimony of all the brother Palestinian, Syrian, and Arab officials and the testimony of our popular masses of which we are proud and which we regard as a measure of our course of struggle and informational action. We exert our efforts on the basis of our sense of the responsibility of struggle. We also exert our efforts on the basis of our daily practices in order to reinforce our people's national unity that is based on the unity of Fatah and the PLO and its various factions. We also base our efforts on the need to entrench the principle of democratic dialogue preparatory to resolving all our internal problems and in order to achieve political and organizational reforms since this constitutes the safety valve for the continuation of the revolution and the revolutionary development of our struggle.

For this purpose, we embarked on an extensive move that included contacts with all the brother leaders of the factions and the PNC speaker. From the beginning, our moves, contacts, and dialogue with the brothers in the friendship committee were based on these principles in order to protect our people and secure the continuation of our revolution. Thus, we consider what took place yesterday, in terms of occupation and aggression against the PLO's information institutions in Syria, a blow to this democratic course which expresses our people's conscience; a conscience represented by our raising slogans of unity and the means of democratic action as a method of entrenching democratic reforms throughout the Palestinian and Arab arenas.

Here, in our capacity as officials and cadres in the Unified Information Department in Syria, and as members of the PLO's Higher Information Council, which was formed by an Executive Committee decision, we announce before you and in the presence of all our brother informational cadres, that any attempt by those who occupied our offices to use the official PLO papers and stamps or issue any publication under its name is a forgery that does not express or reflect the opinion of the Unified Information Department of the PLO.

Here, we state before you that up to the point before our offices were occupied, we believed that all the provocations and pressures which were directed against us as an institution and individuals were mere irresponsible individual practices. We believed this until we were faced with the military storming of our offices. This means that all previous transgressions were a prelude toward achieving this result.

Here, we assert before you that the occupation of an office or the storming of one of our positions will not prevent us in our capacity as strugglers and the sons of struggle, from continuing to play our role. We assert that these actions, which are rejected by our people, will only strengthen our adherence to our democratic revolutionary course which is based on our conviction of struggling to preserve the revolution, escalate armed struggle, and reject all forms of settlements that ignore our rights in all our national soil.

We assert that we will firmly adhere to the unity of Fatah and the PLO and its definite alliance as a principal faction of the Arab and international liberation movements in order to achieve the aims of our people and nation of liberating our homeland and all occupied Arab territories. It is a revolution until victory.

[Signed] The staff of the Palestinian Unified Information Department in Syria.

Damascus Report on Seizure

JN091950 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT
9 Oct 83

[Text] The Palestinian Unified Information Department cadres yesterday announced that they joined the revolutionary uprising within the national Palestinian liberation movement, Fatah. A Fatah information source said today that this new addition is an indication of the increasing support for the uprising and its just demands. The source said that this also tightens the grip on the deviant course and its symbols. The source commented on this action by saying: It is normal for the deviant side's statements to be characterized by nervousness and agitation as a result of the successive joinings in favor of the revolutionary uprising.

VOI. on Palestinian Clashes in Damascus 11 Oct

NC110614 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT
11 Oct 83

[Text] The Palestinian conflict has shifted to Damascus, where clashes with machineguns took place last night between 'Arafat supporters and dissidents. Eyewitnesses said that some of the

clashes took place around buildings controlled by 'Arafat supporters, especially the mobilization and organization office which is headed by 'Arafat's representative in Syria Muhammad Ghunaym. It has been reported that the Syrian security forces did not intervene to halt the clashes.

Monte Carlo Report on Attack

JN102102 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2045 GMT
10 Oct 83

[From the "Panorama" program]

[Text] According to a Palestinian military spokesman in Tripoli it seems that the clashes between the Fatah forces and the dissidents continued today but in Damascus.

The spokesman said that groups from the dissidents and the PFLP-GC at 1630 Damascus time today attacked the Fatah mobilization and organizational office. Clashes took place between the attackers and the office guards. One office member was killed and two others were wounded.

At 2100 Damascus time, the dissidents and Ahmad Jibril's group [PFLP-GC] attacked 'Arafat's office in Damascus, known as office 23, in Pakistan street near the Damascus area command and the center of the Syrian intelligence service. The guards of 'Arafat's office repulsed the attackers, the Palestinian spokesman said.

In the wake of this, the Syrian intelligence men encircled 'Arafat's office and also encircled the office of the Nabulus Committee in Damascus.

The Palestinian spokesman added that the revolution command holds the Syrian authorities fully responsible for these attacks which are taking place before the eyes of the Palestinian and Syrian masses.

PLO To Set Up 'Central' Radio Station in Tunisia

LD091558 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1528 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Text] Tunis, 9 Oct (KUNA) — A Tunisian paper said today that the PLO is preparing to set up a central broadcasting station in Tunisia to broadcast its programs in Arabic, English, and Hebrew.

The Tunisian *Al-Anwar* said the relay of the Palestinian station will cover the entire Arab region. The aim of this station, it added, is to secure continuous and direct contact between the PLO and the sons of the Palestinian people in the Arab countries and the citizens of the occupied Arab territories.

SAUDI ARABIA

FRG's Chancellor Kohl Visits 9-11 October

Crown Prince Welcomes Kohl

LD091548 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1520 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 9 Oct (SPA) — FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl arrived in Jidda today at 1700 on a 3-day official visit to the kingdom. First among those who received him was His Royal Highness Crown Prince Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard. After a rest at the airport's royal hall, his excellency accompanied by his highness the crown prince went to the palace, which has been prepared to accommodate him.

Kohl Meets King Fahd

LD092159 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2120 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Text] Jidda, 9 Oct (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz this evening met with the chancellor of Federal Germany, Helmut Kohl, who is currently visiting the Kingdom. This meeting was attended by the crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and the foreign minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal on the Saudi side. On the German side, it was attended by the minister of state at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Juergen Moelleman.

DPA: Kohl-Fahd Meeting

LD092212 Hamburg DPA in German 2134 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Text] Jidda 9 Oct (DPA) — In a talk tomorrow with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, Federal Chancellor Kohl will continue his exchanges with Middle East leaders which he began in Jordan and Egypt. Kohl met the king at an official dinner on Sunday evening. Before and after the dinner the king and chancellor conferred in a small circle with Defense Minister Prince Sultan taking part.

According to Bonn government spokesman Peter Boenisch, both sides discussed the international situation and the course of Kohl's trip to the Middle East. Like King Husayn of Jordan and President Mubarak of Egypt, King Fahd called for a stronger European commitment in the Middle East question to revive the halting peace process.

The Bonn government spokesman and delegation circles brushed aside questions concerning the delivery of German weapons to Saudi Arabia. Political observers do not rule out that this topic may have been raised today. The Saudis believe that the previous Bonn government under Helmut Schmidt had promised the delivery of the Leopard II main battle-tank. Evidently Bonn is now thinking of offering other weapon systems such as the "Gepard" self-propelled anti-aircraft gun system.

Kohl Meets Saudi Officials

LD101233 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1110 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] Jidda, 10 Oct (SPA) — The FRG chancellor, Helmut Kohl, met this morning at his residence in Jidda with the second deputy prime minister, minister of defence and aviation and inspector general, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

The meeting was attended by the foreign minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, by the Foreign Ministry under-secretary for political affairs, 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansur, and by the minister of state at the [FRG] Foreign Ministry.

Participants in Talks Named

LD101348 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1220 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] Jidda, 10 Oct (SPA) — King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz held talks this afternoon at his royal court with Chancellor Helmut Kohl of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The meeting was attended on the Saudi side by: His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister and head of the national guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation; His Royal Highness Prince Nayf ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of the interior; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs; Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy; Dr Ghazi al-Qusaybi, minister of industry and electricity; and 'Abd al-Rahman Mansuri, Foreign Ministry under secretary for political affairs.

On the West German side, the talks were attended by Juergen Moelleman, minister of state at the Foreign Ministry; Hans von Stein, ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Kingdom; and members of the German delegation.

Visits Auto Factory

LD102309 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Excerpts] This afternoon, his excellency the West German chancellor paid a visit to the Mercedes car factory in Jidda. He was accompanied by Minister of Industry and Electricity Ghazi al-Qusaybi. The chancellor thanked those concerned for the welcome accorded. He also admired the Saudi youth working in the factory, pointing out that the experience and training of these youth are a good investment. His excellency added: I am very happy with my talks with his majesty the king regarding the promotion of economic ties. We, he said, hope for more joint Saudi-German factories. Dr Ghazi al-Qusaybi expressed pleasure at the chancellor's visit to the car factory.

No Leopard Tank Sale

LD110846 Hamburg DPA in German 0729 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] Jidda, 11 Oct (DPA) — Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl will not allow the German Leopard-II tank to be sold to Saudi Arabia. He made this clear at a press conference today in Jidda at the end of his Saudi visit. Kohl said that in his talks with King Fahd and members of the Saudi Government, Saudi Arabia's wish for the delivery of the tank had been discussed but no agreement had been reached. The chancellor stressed that no commitment to the delivery had been made. Toward the end of the year, a Saudi group of experts will come to the FRG to discuss the delivery of German arms supplies "that are on offer." The Saudi side will then have to decide on its requirements. A joint communique stated in this connection that the arms supplies would have to be "earmarked for defense...in so far as they correspond with Saudi requirements."

When questioned, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said he has nothing to add to the chancellor's statement; what is at stake was deepening cooperation also in the military defense sphere between the two countries. Saudi Arabia pursues a peace policy and threatens no one. He is convinced, said the foreign minister, that his country can depend even in this sensitive area on the Federal Republic, with which it maintains trusting relations. On the question of arms supplies, discussion between the governments has been positive but negative among the media.

Kohl ended his 1-week Middle East tour, which also took him to Jordan and Egypt, with the press conference and a visit to Interior Minister Prince Nayif. Commenting on the joint communique, which stresses the will to expand cooperation in all spheres, and the good relations between the two countries, the chancellor underlined the European position on the Middle East question. He thus supports the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people but also Israel's right to live within secure and recognized borders. The Israeli settlement policy is a serious obstacle in the path toward a peace solution, but the refusal to recognize Israel's rights is also an obstacle. Kohl stressed that Saudi Arabia has assumed a responsible and moderating position in the Middle East conflict, and he praised its mediating role in the "Lebanon tragedy." The communique states in this connection that both sides call for respect for the will of the Lebanese people to restore Lebanon's territorial integrity, sovereignty, and independence. Kohl repeated his view before the press that the security of the Middle East and Europe is interrelated. The Iraqi-Iranian conflict is at the center of "one of the most endangered points of our globe." Kohl affirmed that he will pursue the results of his Middle East tour in his contacts with U.S. President Ronald Reagan and the European allies.

Statement Issued

LD111113 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0912 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Jidda, 11 Oct (SPA) A joint Saudi-German statement has been issued at the end of the 2-day official visit by Chancellor Helmut Kohl to the kingdom in response to the invitation of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Here follows the text of the statement:

At the invitation of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, monarch of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Dr Helmut Kohl, chancellor of the Federal German Republic, paid an official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 9 to 11 October 1983. The chancellor was accompanied by Juergen Moellemann, minister of state at the Foreign Ministry; Dr Volkmar Koehler, secretary of state of the Ministry of Economic Cooperation and official spokesman of the German Government; and Minister of State Peter Boenisch.

His excellency the chancellor held comprehensive talks with His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al Sa'ud, monarch of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; and with the following members of his majesty's government: His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, defense and aviation minister, and inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of the interior; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy; Dr Ghazi al-Qusaybi, minister of industry and electricity, acting minister of health, and accompanying minister.

The talks concentrated on the international situation, in which discussions of the existing disputes in the Middle East, including the war between Iraq and Iran, received a great deal of attention.

The two sides have agreed on the pressing need to find a lasting, just, peaceful solution for the Middle East conflict and for the need to exert intensified efforts that are bound to achieve this aim. His excellency the chancellor stated that he will continue his talks in this respect in the contacts that he will be holding with President Reagan and with his European allies. The two sides called for respect of the will of the Lebanese people to restore the unity of their country and to maintain its sovereignty and independence. In this respect His Excellency Chancellor Kohl praised the relentless efforts exerted by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to stop the fighting in Lebanon and begin a national dialogue.

The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the excellent level of bilateral Saudi-German relations. They expressed their determination to develop and to deepen cooperation between their two countries in all spheres. The two sides praised the importance of existing intensified political dialogue between the two countries at all levels. They also discussed in detail the affairs of cooperation in the economic, industrial, scientific, and technical spheres. They recalled that they give the work of the joint Saudi-German economic committee exceptional importance especially regarding strengthening the trade exchange and increasing the volume of exchange investments. The two sides agreed that cooperation should cover the defensive military sphere. In this respect, they agreed that a group of Saudi specialists will visit the FRG at the end of 1983 to discuss what the FRG can offer that would, at the time, be in line with the needs of the Kingdom.

The talks, which took place in the spirit of friendship and cordiality, contributed to strengthening and deepening the exist-

ing firm relations between the two countries. His excellency the chancellor expressed his appreciation for the hospitality with which his excellency and the accompanying delegation received during their visit to the Kingdom. He extended an official invitation to His Majesty King Fahd 'Abd al-'Aziz to pay a visit to the FRG. His majesty accepted it thankfully, the date to be scheduled later.

Crown Prince Meets With 'Arafat Envoys

LD091048 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1005 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard, received in his office at noon today Mr Khalid al-Hasan, Mr Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser; Mr Abu Mazin [Mahmud

'Abbas], and Mr Rafiq an-Natshah, the PLO representative to the Kingdom. The meeting was attended by Information Minister 'Ali Hasan ash-Sha'ir.

Israeli Agricultural Equipment Purchase Denied

LD081144 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1103 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Text] Jidda, 8 Oct (SPA) — An official source has stressed to SPA that there is absolutely no truth in the claim that the Zionist entity is selling agricultural equipment to the Kingdom. The source stated that it is astonishing that such a claim comes from an Israeli source, whose aims are obvious to everyone.

Reportage on Visit by FRG's Chancellor Kohl

Arrives 7 October

NC071118 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT
7 Oct 83

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din accorded an official welcome to FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl at the Al-Qubba Palace this morning. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali received the FRG chancellor on his arrival at Cairo Airport today on an official 3-day visit. Official talks between President Husni Mubarak and Chancellor Kohl will begin at the Republican Palace in Al-Qubba this afternoon. The talks will deal with international issues, the situation in the Middle East, and the role of the FRG and the European countries in promoting the peace efforts.

Kohl-Mubarak 7 Oct Talks

NC071821 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1710 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 7 Oct (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl held talks this afternoon in the Al-Qubba Republican Palace. Meanwhile, the Egyptian and German delegations held another meeting. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali headed the Egyptian side and Mr Juergen Moelleman, state minister at the FRG Foreign Ministry headed the FRG side.

Two hours after the Mubarak-Kohl meeting, the Egyptian and FRG delegations joined them in an enlarged session. The enlarged session was attended on the Egyptian side by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din; Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali; Minister of Transport, Communications, and Maritime Transport Sulayman Mutawalli Sulayman; Minister of Electricity and Energy Mahir Abaza; State Minister for Information Safwat ash-Sharif; Minister of International Investment and Cooperation Wajih Shindi; Presidential Secretary General 'Izz ad-Din Mukhtar; Egypt's Ambassador in Bonn Dr 'A'ishah Ratib; and Assistant Foreign Minister 'Umar Sirri.

On the German side it was attended by the delegation accompanying Chancellor Kohl, under Mr Juergen Moelleman.

Mubarak, Kohl Press Conference

NC072058 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1930 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 7 Oct (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl held a 45-minute press conference this evening. The conference was attended by representatives of international information media and the members of the delegations to the Egyptian-FRG talks. The conference, which followed the conclusion of the expanded session of talks between the two countries at the Al-Qubba palace, dealt with the situation in the Middle East, FRG-Egyptian relations, the European efforts, particularly the German efforts, to give momentum to the peace endeavors in the Middle East, and the FRG stand on the deployment of U.S. missiles on its territory.

At the outset of the conference, FRG Chancellor Kohl was asked if, during his visit to Jordan, he sensed that Jordan would be prepared to join the peace process if Israel withdrew from Lebanon. He was also asked about the European role, particularly the FRG role, with regard to some specific issues such as the Palestinians' right to self-determination and the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

Chancellor Kohl said: I had friendly talks for 2 days with King Husayn of Jordan. His stands on the occupied territories in the West Bank are known. In a speech I made there, I referred to two interlinked subjects: Namely, the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the right of all states in the area, including Israel, to exist.

Kohl added: We also discussed the possibilities with regard to the European role vis-a-vis the conflict in the Middle East. I said that peace cannot be divided and the existence of tension in one area will have negative effects on other areas. This is an important area and it is the cradle of religion and human civilization. He pointed out that he will seize the opportunity of his meeting with his European friends to put forward his views as well as the views of the U.S. side.

Replying to a question on what he expects from the FRG or from the European Community on the Middle East question, President Mubarak said: Without the help of the European states, including the FRG, the Middle East question might not achieve any results. We know the extent of the U.S. support for the Middle East question and we also know the extent of Western Europe's, and particularly the FRG's support for the question. He added: The FRG together with the European states have supported the peace initiative, the Camp David accord, and the peace agreement with Israel. This support and European public opinion have weight and influence as far as the Middle East is concerned and we hope that it will continue because of its benefit in this regard.

Asked about his anticipated visit to Saudi Arabia and his attitude and possible reservations about the Leopard tanks deal with Saudi Arabia, Chancellor Kohl said: I am visiting my friends in Jordan, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia. In our cooperation with friends I do not differentiate between the private sphere [da'irah] and the political sphere. In the private sphere I regard it as inappropriate to speak about topics that were discussed with friends. We are speaking with and not about friends. I believe that the news agencies are not a suitable channel for communicating information about friends.

Replying to a question on the FRG stand on the deployment of nuclear missiles in Europe, Chancellor Kohl said: After a decade of Soviet nuclear superiority, we reached in 1979 a bilateral NATO agreement. Up to that time, the Soviets were deploying SS-20 missiles while up to now we have not deployed medium-range U.S. missiles on our territories. Negotiations are still going on in Geneva in this regard. In Chancellor Schmidt's era the FRG formulated the bilateral agreement, and I support it. We as Germans hope that a disarmament and an effective monitoring of armaments will be achieved. The wasting of billions on weapons instead of allocating them for humanitarian purposes does not please us. We do not desire to deploy these missiles and since

the bilateral agreement indicates that negotiations between the Soviet and U.S. sides will continue until the end of the year, after which the missiles will be deployed, there are some weeks during which success may be achieved.

He said that U.S. President Reagan had submitted some reasonable proposals with our participation and if the Soviet Union desires it would be possible to reach a solution. If the hoped for result is not reached, the missiles will be deployed. He said: I oppose the idea of altering the time-table for the deployment of the missiles; however, we shall be prepared to negotiate even after the missiles are deployed.

Replying to a question on his visualization of the actual contribution Europe can make to persuade the parties to the conflict in the Middle East to achieve a solution, President Mubarak said: The matter requires that the parties affirm their good intentions about peace; this also requires efforts on the part of our friends in Europe to cooperate with us. I still repeat the call I made at the United Nations to the people of Israel to match the challenge of peace with deeds. I call on the Israeli Government to withdraw from Lebanon, to return to its international borders, to take a bold step and declare a timetable without waiting for other countries. In this way the Arab countries will realize that the problem in Lebanon is an Arab problem.

Replying to a question on his request to the European states to assume a role although they have not played an effective role in the Middle East in the past years and whether that meant that these countries are in a better position now or whether he had no confidence in the U.S. role in this regard, President Mubarak said: Who said they did not support us effectively? They have done so. One of the main concerns of European public opinion is the Middle East peace process. They have supported us from the start of the peace process up to now.

Replying to a question on his visit to the Middle East and on relations between the FRG and the GDR and the future of these relations in light of the visits that have taken place considering the common border between Germany and the Soviet Union, and whether he feels uneasy in light of this as a result of the tension facing the Soviet and U.S. sides at present, Chancellor Kohl said: We are a divided country. The field of dispute between East and West begins in our country. Every change in the international political climate affects our relations like an earthquake. There is a wall that divides our old capital Berlin. We do not forget this. It is therefore important for us to endeavor to strengthen detente and disarmament. The Soviet Union is our most important and biggest neighbor. It is natural that we should want to reach understanding with the Soviets. The Soviet side should respect our wish and our right to self-determination. We are suffering from division and we cannot accept that.

Chancellor Kohl added: History has taught us that war and violence do not help in solving problems. This does not mean that we approve of hegemony.

On his visits to some of the area's states, Chancellor Kohl said: A year has passed since I assumed my post. I have seized the first available opportunity to visit the area. I wanted to keep my promise to President Mubarak to come to Egypt as soon as

possible to meet with him so that each one of us will get acquainted with the other's points of view, and so as to strengthen our traditional friendship. Our assessment of our history, ideology, and civilization will not be complete without taking into consideration the influence of the Arab states in the spheres of history, philosophy, civilization, and ideology.

Mubarak, Kohl Dinner Speeches

NC072109 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2000 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 7 Oct (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has affirmed the need for speeding up the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and for respecting its people's sovereignty over their territory. In an address he delivered at a dinner he gave tonight in honor of Chancellor Helmut Kohl, President Mubarak explained that peace will not be achieved nor stability established in the Middle East so long as the Palestinian people do not obtain the right to self-determination and to establish their national entity on their own soil. He emphasized that Egypt will not abandon helping the Palestinian people in all circumstances.

In his address, President Mubarak asked the FRG and the European community to continue their efforts to pave the way for a settlement and to urge the various sides to negotiate.

Chancellor Kohl replied with an address in which he affirmed that a just and permanent peace will not be achieved in the Middle East so long as the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the right of Israel and the other states in the area to live within recognized and secure borders, are not recognized.

The text of President Husni Mubarak's address at the dinner follows:

Dear friend, Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Mrs Kohl, dear friends:

It gives me pleasure to welcome you to Egypt and to express to you the pride of us all in the close ties and the relations of firm friendship which link us with the great German people, who have contributed to development and progress and who have participated in extending bridges of cooperation and interaction between nations and peoples. Relations between our people in the Arab Republic of Egypt and your friendly people in the Federal Republic of Germany have developed within the framework of political [word indistinct], constructive economic and technical cooperation, and joint cultural exchanges. Our people do not hide their deep admiration for the technological progress and the industrial development in your country. This has always opened broad opportunities for cooperation between the two countries — cooperation built on a strong foundation of traditional friendship between the two peoples. This has been true ever since the Egyptian people began to follow with profound admiration the well-established German expertise in the political and economic spheres. This cooperation has been linked with an atmosphere suitable for stability, development, progress, and prosperity.

Dear friend, both our countries have a similar role, each in its area. As the FRG Government is seeking to achieve European peace and reduce the causes of tension on the continent and

indeed in the entire world, Egypt, too, is playing the same role in the Middle East to establish a just and lasting peace in an area that experienced several wars in recent years. My meeting with you last year was an excellent occasion during which we exchanged views and each of us closely learned again the views of the other within the framework of the strong friendship that binds our two countries.

Our discussions with you have always revealed that the close relationship between security and peace in Middle East and stability and prosperity on the whole European continent cannot be disregarded. Therefore, we believe that everyone is concerned with the tense situation in this area which portends serious consequences and threatens the peace process for which we have been exerting our utmost efforts with sincere intentions and absolute resolve. The peace we have been seeking will not be real under the Israeli occupation of Lebanon and the settlements policy in the West Bank and Gaza. It is necessary that the course of the situation be corrected on the basis of respect for the legitimate rights of all the parties and that the provisions of international law be abided by. For this reason, we call for expediting the withdrawals from Lebanon, and for respecting its people's sovereignty over their territory so as to enable them to start the reconstruction process following the events they have suffered in the past years. Meanwhile, we look forward to the resumption of the efforts to settle the Palestinian issue because peace will not be achieved and stability will not be established unless the Palestinian people attain their right to self-determination and establish their national entity on their soil. Egypt, which has always supported their cause, will not give up supporting them under any circumstances.

Dear friend, we are aware of your country's constructive role inside the EC to find a settlement to the long-standing conflict in the Middle East. We are aware of the progress made in the EC's understanding of the legitimate national aims of the Middle East people. We ask you to continue to work with our friends in the EC for paving the way for a settlement and to urge the parties to resort to negotiations — on the grounds that they are the legitimate means specified in the UN charter for the settlement of disputes by peaceful means — and to abandon the policy of using force and to recognize the right of all the states in the area to live in peace and the right of their people to determine their own fate.

You also are in complete accord with us on the need for ending the Iran-Iraq war which is not in the interest of either of the two peoples and which does not serve the common aims of the people of the area, foremost of which is the attainment of political and economic stability that is necessary for the success of the efforts to achieve comprehensive development and that ensures the protection of the area's states from the dangers of [word indistinct] foreign interference. We believe that all the peace-loving forces in all parts of the world should play an effective role in ending this futile war and refrain from doing anything that will prolong the fighting and continued bloodshed because the waste of capabilities and resources in war, while prohibited by law and canonical law, deprives human society of colossal potential during a phase in which crises have been exacerbated and challenges and dangers have increased.

Dear friend, the great German people, who experienced war and peace, and managed through creative efforts and persevering work to wage an ambitious battle for development and prosperity, and to emerge with an advanced industrial base and distinguished economic structure, are the most able of all peoples to realize the meaning of peace and its challenges after war and its ordeals. Given this experience, they are also capable of making an enlightened contribution to world peace by avoiding the policy of force, and adhering to the hope of all humanity to reach a prosperous age, that will free hundreds of millions of peoples from poverty and backwardness.

I would like to add here, that we in Egypt are looking forward to continuing the dialogue with the government of your friendly people in order to exert joint efforts to establish world peace. We are also looking forward to more cooperation between both our countries in all fields to serve the interests of our friendly peoples who are linked by deep friendship and mutual understanding that go back many years.

Friends, allow me to ask you to stand up to greet friend Chancellor Helmut Kohl, his wife, and all the dear guests of Egypt present here and to greet the friendship between the FRG people and the people of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl made the following speech in reply:

His excellency the president, the president's wife, ladies and gentlemen, I would like, Your Excellency the President, to thank you in my name and on behalf of my wife and the accompanying delegation for your kind words. I also would like to thank the Egyptian side for the hospitable reception accorded us, which indicates the depth of the friendship existing between us. The friendship existing between our peoples, which constitutes a strong foundation for our relations, has old traditions. This friendship began through the meetings that took place between Germans and Egyptians in the last century. I cite as an example (Richard Libsius), who specialized in Egyptian archaeology, Orientalist (Karsten Naybur) and doctor (Theodore Bilhars). These scientists were the first to exchange a strong, rich and civilized heritage which gave the relations between our peoples depth and warmth that continued even during critical times.

Today, it pleases us to see the strong ties and relationships in the fields of science, education, art, literature, archaeology, and technology. I would like to stress this strength by citing a good example of the civilized cooperation between our two countries. Cairo, a center for the Islamic and Arab worlds, is full of unique castles and ruins that go back well over 1,000 years. Your government, Your Excellency, through the recent renovation of the Citadel, has proven its concern for preserving this great heritage. Since 1973, the German Archaeology Institute in Cairo, in cooperation with the Archaeology Authority in Cairo, has been renovating the old Islamic archaeological sites in old Egypt. Examples of this are the Prince Mithqal Mosque, the Hejaz Tatar school, and the Bushqaq site. It pleases me to tell you today that the FRG Government will continue this successful cooperation and will appropriate other funds for 1984 to preserve the Sultan Nasir Muhammad ibn Tulun school and the Al-Jamaliyah school.

In addition to this cultural and scientific cooperation, there is intensive and strong cooperation between the institutions and organizations in both the economic and social domains. It is preferable that our governments maintain their position which is based on paving the way for this cooperation while affording complete freedom for citizens and institutions to take initiatives of their own.

Our cooperation with Egypt and other friendly states proceeds from the principle of equal comradeship — that is, we are carrying out joint tasks and cooperating together in our common interest. These tasks urgently and persistently manifest themselves in the economic and social domains and within the framework of world economy, especially in the field of foreign policy. The first of these tasks is that of [facing] the great challenge to our era which stems from the eagerness to preserve peace without giving up freedom.

My country will continue to contribute to Egypt's economic and social development. This contribution is based even more on the principle of equal comradeship: First, because this contribution will not be effective unless the efforts of the two sides are concerted; and second, because the purpose of this contribution is to boost capabilities and independence in the economic and political fields — a matter which serves the stability and peace in your area and, consequently, serves our security as well.

Egypt's development occupies a prominent position in our existing cooperation. This will not change even in light of the world economic situation which is compelling us to make wise use of our financial capabilities as much as possible.

There is no doubt that this task can be achieved not only with our official cooperation in development, but also with our two countries' industrial establishments which make an important and probably a more effective contribution than government efforts. Today, there are over 50 companies and establishments working in this field. I believe that this number will increase even more with the improvement of the legal situation and practical conditions for this work. The companies in my country are very interested in carrying out projects in Egypt. So let us pave the way for the forces of free economy to become even more fruitful and effective than they are today.

Mr President, cooperation between us is being carried out under the umbrella of the friendship existing between our two countries in the political field. This friendship is an extremely important part of our traditional friendship with the whole Arab world. Allow me to add in this respect that this friendship does not run counter to the friendly relations that exist between us and Israel. We are advocates of cooperation and peace among, as well as with, all the peoples of this area which is near us. Mr President, our political relationship is strong and friendly. The most important reason for this is that we are in agreement on the basic issues of international relations, especially with regard to our joint adoption of peace and a peaceful balance of interests. The late President Anwar as-Sadat, whose memory still lives, was so right when he told the European Parliament that civilized peoples can resolve their differences in viewpoints only through rational dialogue and with a spirit of flexibility and understanding.

The great deed left by the late president, namely, the peace treaty with Israel, has survived all the obstacles that faced it in the past years. This course must be followed with courage and determination so that a comprehensive peace can be achieved in the Middle East. The peaceful policy which your country is adopting, as the FRG is doing, means abandoning the dangerous and irresponsible attempts aimed at solving political problems through the use of force. Words cannot express our great appreciation for your and your predecessor's having initiated for the first time the principle of a solution based on negotiations in an area associated with the term conflict.

This conflict brought a great deal of suffering and torment for the Middle East people for several decades. The roots of this conflict are not caused by a just right here and false claim there, but because of the presence of two conflicting national rights in the Middle East — the rights of the Palestinian and Jewish peoples. This gave the conflict an obdurate character far removed from compromises. A just and subsequently permanent peace cannot be achieved in the Middle East unless the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, and the right of Israel and other countries in the area to live within secure and recognized borders, are established. In the long run the peoples' right to live cannot be disregarded through the use of force, because these rights will impose themselves sooner or later. Therefore, political wisdom requires that these rights be taken into consideration as long as the time is still suitable to emerge from the satanic cycle of violence and counterviolence, in keeping with the Arab proverb that goes — it is better to light a candle than to curse darkness. To emerge from this impasse, the use of force must be abandoned and collective action must be initiated to balance the rights of all the parties concerned.

The first step toward this balance is mutual recognition of these rights. There is no doubt, Your Excellency, that the appeal addressed by your government to Israel to the effect that in return for recognizing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, Israel must be recognized in a way that cannot be misinterpreted, is a profound expression of this inevitability and a demand that meets the concepts that we have proposed for several years. The road from a mutual recognition of rights to achieving a balance based on agreement can only be paved by negotiations in which all the parties concerned can participate. What is important in this respect is that one's rights must not be exercised at the expense of the rights of other parties. The establishment of a comprehensive and just and, subsequently, permanent peace can only be achieved through this solution which is based on negotiations and accepted by all the parties concerned. There are certain positive indications connected with a comprehensive peace, such as the encouraging resolutions issued by the Fes summit conference. Also the U.S. president's plan for a practical course leading to negotiations met with a positive response. Despite this, no one made use of these opportunities. I am deeply concerned over the fact that the peace process is frozen and that new obstacles emerge on the road toward peace. An example of this is the Israeli settlement policy. I would like also to point out just as clearly that another example is the tendency to refrain from recognizing Israel in a way that cannot be misinterpreted.

Mr President, we are not a party to the Middle East conflict although this conflict concerns us. We cannot separate Europe's security from the security of our friends in the area. Neither can we present or even impose ready solutions on the parties to the conflict. However, we can and would like to help these parties in facilitating the process of reaching the negotiating table. What is impeding the search for peace is not the lack of new plans, but hesitation and weak self-confidence vis-a-vis the challenges posed by the negotiations. Readiness for peace is important, but this alone is not sufficient; readiness to negotiate must also exist.

Perhaps, Arab solidarity can facilitate decisionmaking regarding these negotiations. There is no doubt that the adventure of achieving peace demands courage. This has been proven by Egypt. We share your hope that the moderate forces of the parties involved will become stronger because that will constitute victory for all of us.

The forces of moderation and peace have failed as is evident in the tragic events we are witnessing in Lebanon. We are pained and grieved as we see the new bloody conflicts and the resulting collapse of this country, which was shining brightly before, and the collapse of its inhabitants with it. We were happy with the cease-fire decision that was made on 26 September. We also welcome and hope for agreement on convening a Lebanese national reconciliation conference. We hope that this will mark the beginning of the restoration of freedom, sovereignty, and territorial safety for Lebanon. This requires the consecration of national reconciliation in Lebanon, the ending of foreign interference in its affairs, and the withdrawal of all the foreign forces in a clear and frank manner. Lebanon cannot assume its natural mission as a bridge between East and West unless it becomes free and peace prevails there.

Mr President, from all these events and complications we can deduce a common lesson, namely, that the difficult problems in the Middle East cannot be resolved unless its peoples unite and cooperate together. Mr President, Egypt has always been an extremely important part of the Arab world and therefore ought to reassume the position it deserves in the Arab world.

Mr President, the Islamic world is celebrating the new hegira year. Therefore, I wish you and the friendly Egyptian people good luck and success and hope that this year peace will be maintained and its foundations strengthened.

Muhyi ad-Din, Kohl Meet

*NC081329 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT
8 Oct 83*

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din this morning received FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl and the delegation accompanying him. Dr Muhyi ad-Din stated after the meeting that the talks were positive and dealt with the consolidation and expansion of cultural and trade relations. He said these relations have grown sixfold during the past 8 years. The talks also dealt with the continuation of German projects in Egypt and the method of their implementation. Dr Muhyi ad-Din said German

aid to Egypt amounts to about DM300 million annually. They also discussed the diversification of Egyptian exports to the FRG so they will not be confined to traditional goods and so new opportunities will arise for Egyptian exports in an attempt to create as much of a trade balance as possible between the two countries.

Kohl Views Cairo Visit

NC090915 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0822 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 9 Oct (MENA) — FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl affirmed that his country supports the political line which President Husni Mubarak is currently following. He expressed the hope that the Arab states will realize the importance of this line, especially when they look at the deteriorated and dangerous situation in Lebanon. In a special statement to MENA before his departure from Cairo today, Chancellor Kohl also affirmed that the solution of problems cannot be achieved through violence. He pointed out that there are two basic issues on which the Egyptian and the German views agree: the right of self-determination for the Palestinians and the right of Israeli existence.

Chancellor Kohl said he intends to hold a dialogue with the U.S. side in a bid to push the peace wheel in the Middle East. He said that his working visit to Egypt aimed at consolidating the relations of friendship between the two countries. He described these relations extremely good. Kohl said he has held important talks with President Husni Mubarak, noting that he was briefed on some significant points, including the need to elevate the European side's contribution to establishing peace in the Middle East. Concluding his statement, Chancellor Kohl said his country is making the utmost efforts for the sake of preserving the standard of cooperation with Egypt in the political and economic domains.

Kohl Departs for Luxor

NC090830 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0810 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 9 Oct (MENA) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl left Cairo for Luxor this morning where he will spend a few hours. He will later leave for Saudi Arabia on a visit within his current Middle East tour. Kohl will visit tourist and cultural sites in Luxor. Kohl was seen off at Cairo airport by Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Safwat Ash-Sharif, minister of state for information; and 'Abd al-Fattah al-Manjuri, secretary of the presidential office. The West German chancellor was accorded an official sendoff at Al-Qubbah Palace on the occasion of the end of his 3-day visit to Egypt, a visit that followed a similar visit to Jordan. He was seen off by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, the deputies prime minister, the ministers, and members of the honor escort headed by Safwat ash-Sharif. Also participating in the official sendoff were members of the German Embassy staff in Cairo.

While in Egypt, Chancellor Kohl had talks with President Husni Mubarak on the situation in the Middle East and the relations between Egypt and the FRG in various domains.

French Pilots Fly Super Etendards to Baghdad

LD080938 Paris Domestic Service in French 0900 GMT
8 Oct 83

[Text] The five French Super Etendards purchased by Iraq took off from the naval aviation base at Landivisiau yesterday bound for Baghdad. The aircraft are all equipped with Exocet missiles. French pilots are at the controls. Given that they have a flight range of about 1 and 1/2 hours, several stopovers are, of course, necessary. According to certain reports, they are already reported to have landed in the south of France, where they were reportedly repainted in French colors in order to allow them to use the air lanes without any problems. It is then anticipated that they will be repainted in Iraqi colors on an area of land in the Mediterranean and handed over at that time to Iraqi pilots.

'Aziz Stresses Right To Export Oil Through Gulf

LD091002 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0801 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, 9 Oct (KUNA) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz, in an interview published here today, emphasized that Iraq will not accept Iran's continuing to enjoy exporting its oil products in the Gulf while Iraq is denied this natural right.

In an interview with Kuwait *Al-Anba*, 'Aziz said that "Iraq will not accept this fact, namely that the aggressor is enjoying his concessions, his right." He added: "Now, we do not deny him this right; however, Iraq must not be denied this natural right which will harm its supreme interest."

He referred to the message that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn addressed to the Iranian people last June, which included an invitation to stop all military operations in a comprehensive manner in the Gulf region in order for all the countries of the region to be able to use their ports, to export, to import and exercise freedom of navigation in the Gulf. He said that "this proposal is in everyone's interest, including Iran's." He added that Iran will not suffer from this proposal if applied because it will be safe. Iran will benefit and all the countries of the Gulf, as well as all industrial and nonindustrial countries of the world, will benefit."

Iran on more than one occasion has threatened to close the Strait of Hormuz if its vital interests are exposed to danger.

'Aziz described Iraqi-French relations as good. He said that between his country and France "there are many agreements in various fields, including the military field, and up until now France has adhered to all agreements and contracts which we signed last year." He added that "Iraq, for its part, adhered to all the agreements and contracts it signed with France."

It appears that the interview with 'Aziz took place the day before yesterday when news reports said that five French Super Etendard aircraft bought by Iraq had taken off from France on their way to Baghdad yesterday.

He noted that he had no information that the French side would not adhere to its pledges and he had no doubt that it would adhere to all agreements and contracts Iraq had signed with it. He

expressed his belief that "France is determined to support Iraq, not because of a bias in favor of Iraq and against the other side, but because Iraq adopts a clearly peaceful stance."

The Iraqi foreign minister said that during the U.N. General Assembly's 38th session recently he had discussed with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz the issue of Iran obtaining weapons and spare parts for its American and Western military equipment and that he had expressed his country's view on the matter.

He added: "In these talks we expressed our anxiety and we also underlined the contradiction between this behavior and official statements by the United States and other Western sources that they were in favor of a halt to the war." He warned that "the deterioration of relations between the two major powers harms the international situation as a whole." He said that this is a fact because "whenever the two major powers are preoccupied by their differences and when they escalate the so-called cold war they do not have sufficient time for and interest in other international problems."

Regarding Iraqi-Arab relations 'Aziz said that "with the exception of the well-known relations with Syria and Libya, Iraq's relations with all the other Arab countries are good." He said that "Iraq's special relationship with Egypt does not conflict with the Arab stance," which was approved by the Baghdad summit conference in 1978. He described Iraqi-Egyptian relations as based on confidence and cooperation. He pointed out that the two countries will continue to work jointly in the service of bilateral interests.

He stressed that "Iraq supports the legal Lebanese right to exercise its authority without foreign intervention. It is up to the Lebanese to achieve a common formula." He said that "this does not necessarily mean supporting this side or that among the warring parties in Lebanon; on the contrary, we as brothers advised all parties in Lebanon to find solutions to their problems and to view these problems from an overall Lebanese angle and from the angle of Lebanon's tie with the Arab homeland and not to go forth from their narrow hostilities and limited interests." He added that "we must not say that the Palestinian presence in Lebanon is equivalent to the Israeli occupation; on the contrary, this is a grave mistake." He said "I believe that if an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon took place and if the Syrian brethren began to withdraw their forces from Lebanon and left Lebanon to deal with its own affairs in freedom, then the Palestinian problem in Lebanon could be solved."

Armed Forces Issue Communiques Nos 1,240-1,243

Communique No 1,240

JN071741 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT
7 Oct 83

[Communique No 1,240 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 7 October 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The valiant soldiers of Iraq and the Arab nation pursue their courageous confrontation and their just fighting against the forces of oppression, expansion, and aggression. The results of the activities in the operational theaters yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. While they were carrying out their mission in the Panjwin area in the northern sector of the battlefield this afternoon, our valiant helicopters sighted an enemy helicopter that was trying to bombard our ground units. One of our helicopters intercepted it, fired at it, and destroyed it while in the air. All of its occupants were killed at 1630 today. The enemy helicopter was seen crashing to the ground in flames. All of our helicopters returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Our forward units pounded an enemy troop concentration opposite their positions east of Basra with all types of weapons, killing five and destroying two infantry positions and one observation post.

3. Our forward units sighted an enemy troop concentration opposite their positions in the central sector of the battlefield. Our units pounded it with all types of weapons, killing three and destroying one tank, two infantry positions, and two hardware stockpiles.

4. Three Iranians were killed and one infantry position was destroyed in the northern sector of the battlefield. It has also been ascertained that seven enemy tanks were destroyed in the area opposite Panjwin in the northern sector of the battlefield as a result of our units' operations on 4 October 1983.

5. The clique of evil and rancor in Iran today shelled Basra and Mandali and their suburbs as well as Khurmal. Several civilian installations were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 7 October 1983

Communique No 1,241

JN081737 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT
8 Oct 83

[Communique No 1,241 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 8 October 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Celebrating the Islamic new year today, our valiant Armed Forces are inspired with courage, sacrifice, and zeal and filled with power and determination to repulse the aggression and crush the covetous aggressors.

The results of the war operations for last night and today are as follows:

1. Our combat patrol units and elements from the engineering corps have carried out successful activities against enemy positions, troop assembly points, and communication lines opposite the forward positions of our units in the area facing Panjwin in the northern sector of the front, killing 17 enemy soldiers and wounding others. Two vehicles were destroyed, another dam-

aged, and a number of various weapons and equipment were captured. Using various weapons, our forward units engaged a number of enemy positions and troop assembly points opposite our positions in the Haj 'Umran area, inflicting a number of casualties and destroying three infantry positions. It has been ascertained that during their missions in the same sector yesterday, our daring helicopters attacked a number of enemy vehicles, scoring accurate, direct hits, destroying and burning five vehicles and one trailer, and killing a number of enemy soldiers in addition to the enemy losses mentioned in our Communique No 1,240 issued yesterday.

2. Sighting two enemy groups opposite our forward positions in the central sector of the front, our units engaged them with various weapons, killing six, wounding others, and destroying one infantry position.

3. Using artillery, our forward units attacked an enemy position opposite our forces in the area east of Basra, killing three and destroying a hardware stockpile.

4. Today, the spiteful Khomeyniite gang shelled Ash-Shihabi subdistrict, Khurmal township, and their environs with artillery, causing damage to civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 October 1983.

Communique No 1,242

JN091732 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT
9 Oct 83

[Communique No 1,242 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 9 October 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With a strong belief in our victory and in the defeat of the greedy enemy, our brave forces are continuing their successful activities in the operational sectors. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing one and destroying three vehicles. Columns of smoke could be seen billowing from the hit targets. Our helicopter gunships destroyed and set on fire two other enemy vehicles elsewhere in the same sector.

2. One of our combat patrols clashed with an enemy force opposite our forward units' positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing or wounding several enemy troops.

3. One was killed east of Basra.

4. Today the vile Khomeyniite clique shelled Mandali and its suburbs with artillery, damaging some civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 9 October 1983

Communique No 1,243

*JN101724 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT
10 Oct 83*

[Communique No 1,243 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 10 October 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The lofty Iraqis continue their legitimate defense of their beloved homeland and the Arab nation's dignity against the expansionist Khomeyniite onslaught. The results of the activities yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. A force belonging to our valiant forward units raided an enemy force opposite their positions east of Basra. Our force pounded it with all types of weapons, killing 12 and wounding many. Two

enemy soldiers were also killed and one infantry position was destroyed in another area of the same sector.

2. A force belonging to our forward units pounded an enemy troop concentration opposite their positions in the area facing Panjwin in the northern sector of the battlefield with all types of weapons, killing three, wounding many, and setting fire to one enemy position. Our units also pounded enemy troop concentrations and units opposite their positions in the same sector with their weapons, inflicting on the enemy heavy losses in life and equipment.

3. One 106-mm gun, one observation post and one hardware stockpile were destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 October 1983

JORDAN

FRG Chancellor Kohl, Badran Issue Statements

JN071350 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1205 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Excerpts] His Excellency FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl, his wife, and the accompanying delegation left Amman this morning after a 3-day visit to Jordan. In a statement to reporters at the airport, Kohl said: I deeply thank His Majesty King Husayn, Crown Prince Hasan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, and the members of his government who made it easy for us to enjoy your hospitality. Naturally, I cannot say that a few hours enabled me to exchange views with the people themselves, but I can only say — and I speak on behalf of my wife and my delegation — that we have been met here with a great reception generosity, and hospitality.

Kohl added: I had the opportunity of exchanging many views with His Majesty King Husayn, Crown Prince Hasan, and Prime Minister Mudar Badran on the existing difficult problems in the region. I believe that I can say that there is an identity of views on the great number of issues that exist and on issues which I previously discussed with His Majesty King Husayn. Again, I admired his majesty's extensive experience, his moderation, realism, courage, and his ability of persuasion, particularly his firm desire to realize peace.

Kohl said: We discussed Lebanon at length. We hope that the cease-fire agreement will be maintained and that Lebanon will find its way to national reconciliation and to finding solutions to its problems, particularly since this country is suffering extremely difficult problems. We intensively discussed the Middle East dispute which creates problems, especially concerning Jordan. I presented my viewpoint on the Middle East problem which is completely identical with that of EEC. This stand is based on the 1980 Venice Declaration. We believe that a just and permanent solution to the Middle East dispute cannot be realized unless harmony is established between the Palestinian people's right of self-determination and the right of all the states in the region, including Israel and Jordan, to live within recognized boundaries. This aim cannot be realized unless all the parties concerned renounce the use of force. We earnestly hope that the process of negotiations will succeed and lead to this cherished goal. We will endeavor to realize this goal within the means available to us.

Therefore, and in view of this, my visit to Jordan has been of great significance because I cannot be familiarized with these issues while sitting in my office or reading theoretical writings. The impressions which I formed in the Jordan valley have been important and of great significance. I hope that it will not be a dream for me to look for the realization of peace in this region which is the cradle of divine religions. We, the Europeans, are not indifferent to this situation. We also intensively discussed our bilateral relations. I am happy to know that our Jordanian friends describe these relations as excellent. I will exert my utmost to entrench this cooperation and promote this friendship. My wife and I had the opportunity of seeing the landmarks of Jordan's progress in the economic and social fields. We are very pleased

to find that the FRG Government and people have contributed toward realizing this progress through aid for development. Kohl thanked His Majesty King Husayn and the prime minister for the hospitality accorded to him during his visit to Jordan.

In a statement to newsmen, Prime Minister Mudar Badran said that Jordan was delighted to receive Chancellor Kohl, Mrs Kohl, and the accompanying delegation during the past 2 days. This delight — felt by Jordan's king, government, and people — stems from the established deep roots and the continued contacts His Majesty King Husayn made during his numerous visits to the FRG. His Majesty's talks in the FRG have always been held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and accord concerning all issues of discussion. The continuing relations between the FRG and the EEC countries, these countries' vital interests in the Middle East area, and the historic ties that have been continuing for a long time, have made the EEC countries understand the Middle East problem and its crux, the Palestine question, better than other countries in the world. The EEC countries' deep understanding encourages us to put pressure on them to do their utmost for the sake of achieving peace in this region.

Jordan worked to have the United Nations and the UN Security Council adopt Resolution No 242 in 1967. Jordan considers this resolution to be an international basis for solving the Middle East problem, because it is based on the principle of prohibiting land belonging to others to be occupied by war and on the principle that all countries in the region have the right to live in peace and security. Jordan accepted this resolution at a time when Israel rejected it, and Jordan has responded positively to all peace initiatives after 1967. However, the peace efforts were obstructed by several obstacles.

At the head of these obstacles is the settlement policy in the West Bank that is currently concentrating on the main cities there. Jordan is concerned about peace, but as these settlements continue to be built it is worried that nothing will remain in the future on which to negotiate. Therefore, the European countries, and particularly the United States, are called on to take a firm stand in order to stop these settlements for the sake of keeping the door open for future peace negotiations. Otherwise, there will be no peace negotiations, because there will be nothing there to talk about.

Badran said that Jordan's relations with the FRG are strong, excellent, and based on mutual respect. He added that the Jordanian people are proud of the expertise, technical assistance, loans, and contributions to the development plan that the FRG has given to Jordan and the Jordanian people. They will always remember these services. To Jordan, the FRG represents an essential factor of stability and security in the region. Jordan's stability and security in this region are very important for the world, and the FRG has positively and greatly contributed to this matter. Chancellor Kohl was very pleased when he observed the development plans in the Jordan Valley to which the FRG has contributed. These plans have contributed to the stability of both the people living in the Jordan Valley and to all Jordanian people.

Saddam Husayn Telephones King Husayn 7 Oct

JN081125 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT
8 Oct 83

[Text] Iraqi President Saddam Husayn telephoned His Majesty King Husayn last night on the new Islamic year. The two leaders exchanged congratulations on this historical occasion. During the telephone call, his majesty the king and President Saddam Husayn exchanged opinions on the current Arab issues and the requirements of the common Arab action in this important phase in the history of the Arab nation.

Romanian Prime Minister Arrives on 3-Day Visit

JN081134 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT
8 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Romanian Prime Minister Constantin Dascalescu arrived in Amman today on a 3-day visit to Jordan. The Romanian prime minister was accorded an official reception headed by Prime Minister Mudar Badran.

Confers With King Husayn

JN081522 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Text] Amman, 8 Oct (PETRA) — His Majesty King Husayn and Romanian Prime Minister Constantin Dascalescu held a meeting at An-Nadwah Palace this afternoon. They exchanged viewpoints on a number of current international issues, the developments in the Palestine question on both the Arabic and international levels, and the various developments in the Middle East situation. The Jordanian and Romanian sides also discussed bilateral relations and economic, commercial, and technical cooperation between the two countries, and stressed the need to promote and develop the joint cooperation to realize the interests of the two friendly peoples. His Majesty King Husayn gave a dinner banquet in honor of the Romanian prime minister. His Highness Crown Prince Hasan and members of the Jordanian and Romanians sides attended the banquet.

Preparatory Committee of National Dialogue To Meet*JN100641 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT
10 Oct 83*

[Text] The Preparatory Committee of the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference will meet in Beirut tomorrow. This has been confirmed in Damascus and Beirut. In Damascus, a spokesman of the Lebanese National Salvation Front [NSF] said last night that preparatory consultations for the National Dialogue Committee will begin tomorrow, Tuesday. The spokesman said a minister representing the Lebanese Government, and representatives of the NSF, the Amal Movement, the Lebanese Front, Sa'ib Salam, and Raymond Iddih will attend tomorrow's meeting. This was also confirmed in Beirut by a political source which said that these consultations will soon be followed by an expanded conference for national dialogue, adding that this conference will be held somewhere in Lebanon.

Agreement on Dialogue Venue*NC101201 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1150 GMT
10 Oct 83*

[Text] Diplomatic sources said today the Syrian and the Saudi Governments have agreed on the Presidential Palace in B'abda as the venue for the national dialogue. The government is studying with the appropriate parties the timing for inviting the Preparatory Committee and the National Dialogue Committee to meet. Concerning the neutral observers, the diplomatic sources said the government is awaiting a recommendation by the Security Arrangements Committee at its meeting today concerning this subject so that an official request can be made to the Italian and Greek Governments to send observers to Lebanon to supervise the consolidation of the cease-fire. The requested number of observers will be adequate, but it has not been fixed yet and will be increased as necessary. In fact, the Foreign Ministry today prepared two messages to be addressed to the Italian and the Greek Governments through their embassies in Beirut immediately upon the receipt of the Security Arrangements Committee's recommendation.

Salvation Front Spokesman on Meeting*NC100721 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT
10 Oct 83*

[Text] In Damascus, a spokesman for the [National] Salvation Front has stated that the Lebanese parties concerned with the dialogue have agreed to hold a preparatory meeting tomorrow, Tuesday. However, the venue of the meeting has not yet been designated. The spokesman said that it has been agreed that the preparatory meeting will be attended by Minister Pierre Khuri as representative of the Lebanese state, Alfred Madi as representative of the Phalange Party, Muhsin Dallul as representative of the Salvation Front, 'Akif Haydar as representative of the Amal Movement, Marun Hilu as representative of the National Liberal Party, and a representative each of [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam and of [National Bloc leader] Raymond Iddih. The spokesman added that [former minister] Marwan Hamadah will go to Paris today to meet with Raymond Iddih.

The spokesman said intensive contacts are taking place to agree on a venue for the meeting, but he did not give any indication as to the place where the meeting could be held. The purpose of the meeting will be to prepare for a broader meeting for national reconciliation.

Preparatory Committee Members Named*NC101322 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1227 GMT
10 Oct 83*

[Telephone dispatch from editorial room — live]

[Text] An agreement has been reached on those who will participate in the Preparatory Committee. They are: Muhammad al-Mashnuq as representative of [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam, George Sa'adah as representative of the Phalangists, Muhsin Dallul as representative of the [Progressive] Socialist [Party], Marun Hilu as representative of [former] President Camille Sham'un, and 'Akif Haydar as representative of the Amal Movement. [National Bloc leader] Raymond Iddih has not designated anybody. However, it is believed that either Samir 'Abd al-Malak or Andre Nadir will represent him. The remaining problem is approval of B'abda as the venue for the committee's meeting. A reply is being awaited from the [National] Salvation Front.

Andreotti Affirms Troop Request*LD101646 Rome International Service in Italian 1555 GMT
10 Oct 83*

[Text] Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti affirmed in a statement that he considers serious and realizable the request that will reportedly be made soon by the Lebanese Government and all interested parties to send Italian and Greek servicemen as observers in Lebanon. The minister pointed out, however, that the United Nations should also be involved. According to Andreotti, the presence of neutral observers in Lebanon could facilitate the process of pacification in that country and consequently permit, without dangerous haste, a reduction in the 2,100 man Italian contingent. The agreement between all the interested parties — from the government to the Christian militia, the Druze, and the Shi'ites — for the dispatch to Lebanon of a cease-fire monitoring force of Italians and Greeks was reached yesterday evening and is to be ratified by the military committee consisting of all parties in the Lebanese conflict and created on the day after the cease-fire.

Italian, Greek Observers*NC101746 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT
10 Oct 83*

[Text] The representatives of the various sides to the Security Arrangements Committee have agreed to the participation of Italian and Greek observers in the task of observing the cease-fire, provided that they raise the flags of their countries. The committee held its 11th meeting today in the Trad Hank branch between Kafr Shima and Ash-Shuwayfat. Staff Colonel Jean Nasif, the Army's representative; Dr Jean Ghanim, Lebanese

Front representative; Wahbi Abu Fa'ur, National Salvation Front representative; and Dr Ayyub Humayyid, Amal Movement representative, attended. The committee did not issue a statement after the meeting. Informed sources, however, told the NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY that at the outset of the meeting, which ended at 1630, the committee reviewed the cease-fire violations over the past 24 hours. It transpired that they were limited incidents which were immediately tackled. The conferees then studied the question of the neutral observers to consolidate the cease-fire. They reviewed the offer by the states of Greece and Italy to provide 400 elements from each state to supervise the cease-fire. The Army's representative, Staff Colonel Nasif, expressed his opinion that this number is sufficient to carry out the required observation task. The question was put to discussion and the result was as follows:

1. All sides agreed to Italian and Greek participation in the task of observing the cease-fire decision provided that the observers raise the flags of their countries.
2. The representatives of the Army, the Amal Movement, and the Lebanese Front agreed to bring these observers immediately to begin their work on the basis of the deployment plan that the committee will prepare.
3. The National Salvation Front's representative proposed the delaying of the invitation to Greece and Italy until the reaction of all states asked to participate becomes known in order to safeguard the friendship with them.

The Army's representative gave the conferees maps and a working paper indicating the centers, numbering more than 50, which the observers can occupy. The working paper will be the subject of discussion at later meetings. It deals with comprehensive supervision in all Lebanon. However, the observers work will mainly start in the places of tension now in the southern suburb and the mountain.

The conferees then discussed the progress made in repairing the electricity and water lines. They expressed satisfaction with the work in progress to repair the 'Aramun-Bshamun-Dayr Qubil-Bsaba-Al-Ma'rufiyah electricity line. Engineer Emile Tahinah of the Lebanese Electricity Authority explained to the committee's members the details of the teams' work and the progress made on this line. Regarding the question of water supply, the committee discovered that work is continuing on the Nab' Qalah-Ruwaysat al-Ballut-Al-'Ibadiyah-'Arrayah-Al-Jumhur line.

The committee then raised the question of the security forces' entry into the Al-Kharrub region following the failure to implement this plan yesterday. The committee decided to postpone the discussion of this question until the consultations in this regard are completed.

The committee further dealt with the question of supplies. Its members found out that the delivery of supplies is progressing well. The National Salvation Front representative said the group he represents provides all facilities to the local and international aid teams. He demanded that the distribution of supplies be balanced and in coordination with 'Ubayd Junblatt. He said the

supply convoys should follow the Jazzin-Batir road. The committee will resume its meetings tomorrow, Tuesday.

Junblatt Rejects Palace Venue

NC102303 Paris AFP in English 2255 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] Beirut, Oct (AFP) — Druze leader Walid Junblatt wants the first Lebanese reconciliation meeting to be held aboard a Greek ship, his Progressive Socialist Party said here Monday night. Mr Junblatt has rejected the Presidential Palace in suburban B'abda as a venue for the talks planned there. Syria has accepted the palace talks. The Greek ship could fly a Lebanese flag, the party statement said. The Lebanese Army and the three main factions in the fighting — Christian, Druze and Shi'ite militias — agreed earlier today to deployment of 800 Greek and Italian observers to supervise the ceasefire, Lebanese officials said.

The blocked reconciliation talks were one of the key elements in the September ceasefire agreement. The party statement did not say when Mr Junblatt suggested to the government meeting on a ship. As for the Iqlim al-Kharrub region south of the Ash-Shuf mountains, the statement said Lebanese gendarmes must not occupy that district unless Christian militia evacuate the region. The militia has offered to withdraw and allow government security forces to replace them provided the Druze agree not to move in.

Committee Meetings Not Confirmed

NC110714 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] Although the question of the Dialogue Committee is not clear yet, the question of neutral observers is on the way to settlement due to the progress of talks. Greece and Italy are expected to respond to an invitation and to send 800 observers. On this subject and the dialogue question, our correspondent at the Presidential Palace Joe Sa'adah reports:

[Begin recording] Among the many issues that are being tackled are two main questions which are drawing continuous attention: 1) The question of deploying international observers to supervise the consolidation of the cease-fire. 2) The question of convening the National Dialogue Committee and the related meeting of a Preparatory Committee.

On the first issue, several positive aspects appeared and the current efforts have made long strides in eliminating the difficulties in the way of reaching a solution that will bring about the desired results. However, new obstacles have delayed the achievement of the desired results in spite of the great progress made. These obstacles are expected to be eliminated tomorrow when the necessary measures will be made for inviting the observers and deploying them in positions that are now finally being defined. Their deployment will actually enable them to supervise the cease-fire and to ensure that it is not violated, or in the worst cases to specify the side that breaches the cease-fire.

Concerning the national dialogue question, the state is viewing

this with realism because it is not advisable to belittle or rush the primary option upon which the officials have wagered. The president and his government, who wagered on the political option and the national dialogue, coupled with the highest average of representation of the various parties in the country, cannot venture upon a dialogue before first ensuring solid foundations which would guarantee even the minimum level of success. In this connection, we have learned that official invitations for convening a dialogue conference have not been addressed yet and that no date has been fixed although some circles suggested Wednesday as the date of the Preparatory Committee meeting and the following Wednesday as the date of the main Dialogue Committee meeting. Likewise, the officials have not been officially informed yet of the names of the persons delegated by those invited to the dialogue as their representatives.

Concerning the venue of the meeting, the Presidential Palace in B'abda is the most likely place now that certain parties rejected Jidda as the venue. Although the Presidential Palace is the first and principal place suggested by President Amin al-Jumayyil for the national dialogue and although Syria has not objected to this, certain problems are now being eliminated. It is known that Saudi Arabia has been from the beginning welcoming the Presidential Palace in B'abda as the venue of the meeting. The national dialogue meeting now depends upon solving these problems regarding the venue. [end recording]

Reports on Amending 17 May Agreement Denied

NC071808 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT
7 Oct 83

[Text] Diplomatic sources have explained the ambiguous reports by certain news media about U.S. endeavors to amend the 17 May agreement. These sources affirmed to our correspondent in the Republican Palace, Joe Sa'adah, that the United States still adheres to its sincere commitment and that it supports all that President al-Jumayyil deems fit. Here is Joe Sa'adah from the Republican Palace:

[Begin recording] In addition to the attention being paid to secure the meeting of the Dialogue Committee, hopefully next week, Lebanese officials are working to achieve the basic aim that they have repeatedly announced — ensuring the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon — which has been hindered by the opposing Israeli and Syrian conditions, as well as the inability of the United States so far to make the Syrians and Israelis settle their accounts away from the Lebanese arena.

Within this context, certain local information media today reported that the United States is seeking to amend certain articles of the 17 May agreement in a bid to make the Syrians withdraw from Lebanon. This report is contrary to a statement by a State Department spokesman yesterday affirming U.S. support for the aforementioned agreement.

Diplomatic sources today explained to us that the report by certain information media is based on an erroneous interpretation of what Foreign Minister Elie Salim said at the Chamber of Deputies session yesterday. Salim reiterated to the deputies during yesterday's session, according to these diplomatic sources,

that Lebanon views the agreement as a means to oust the foreign forces from Lebanon. He added that Lebanon continued to discuss the agreement only because it could achieve this goal. Thus, Lebanon does not want the agreement if it will not ensure the ousting of foreign forces from its territory. Lebanon also has no objection if the United States, Syria, and Israel together reach a certain amendment to the agreement, that does not run counter to Lebanon's sovereignty and at the same time secures Syria's agreement to withdraw. Then the agreement can be ratified and a schedule worked out for the withdrawal of the Syrian and Israeli forces.

These sources affirmed that the United States still adheres to its sincere commitment to helping Lebanon regain its unity, sovereignty, and independence and to ousting all the non-Lebanese forces from its territory. This is despite the fact that U.S. efforts have so far encountered many deadlocks. These sources believe that the United States will not be dragged into the labyrinth of internal Lebanese policy, but will support all that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil deems fit to achieve the national goals he has often repeated — faith in the homeland's unity, sovereignty, and independence and affiliation with its Arab surroundings, and securing national unanimity to enable the formation of a strong central government and the establishment of good relations with its Arab neighbors and also seeking to translate this faith into action. The United States trusts President al-Jumayyil and his ability to rally the Lebanese around the values in which they and the free world believe. This is Joe Sa'adah from the Republican Palace. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Meets Soviet Envoy 11 Oct

NC110916 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT
11 Oct 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim met a short while ago with Soviet charge d'affaires Yuriy Suslikov. The talks dealt with the situation in Lebanon in light of several developments and the Soviet Union's stand regarding them.

Sham'un Repeats Calls for New Government

NC071838 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT
7 Oct 83

[Text] [Former] President Camille Sham'un today repeated his request for the formation of a new government that will undertake holding negotiations with Syria to resolve the pending problems, pointing out that the Dialogue Committee will be of no avail because it will be stricken with paralysis from the time it is formed. President Sham'un today chaired the National Liberal Party Higher Political Council's weekly meeting which was held at the party headquarters in Sodeco. The council discussed the current political and security situation.

Junblatt on Need for New Form for Political System

LD080932 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0723 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Text] Rome, 8 Oct (KUNA) — Lebanese leader Walid Junblatt today warned that if no new form for the Lebanese political

system is reached, fighting in that Arab state will be renewed. He also said that the issue of the dialogue between the warring sides stipulated by the cease-fire agreement remains frozen awaiting a venue for the dialogue to take place. In a private interview with KUNA, Junblatt stated that Syrian-Saudi mediation has succeeded in stopping the bloody fighting that took place between opposition and government forces throughout last month. However he added that the "fundamental result — dialogue, and destroying the Phalangist plan that controls Lebanon, the Phalangist system under the presidency of Amin al-Jumayyil which is in control of Lebanon" — has not yet been achieved.

He wondered if the Arabs are prepared to understand that "the Lebanese regime is a danger to Lebanon and to the nationalists in it, and stated that the major question is whether the Arabs will indict this regime, which committed the massacres of Sabra and Shatila, which kidnapped thousands of Lebanese and Palestinian citizens during its period of rule, and which has denied Lebanon the minimum degree of democracy and freedom."

He said that the conflict in Lebanon is between the National Salvation Front — which includes former President Sulayman Franjiyah, former Prime Minister Rashid Karami and the Shi'ite Amal Movement — and the regime, and not between the Christians represented in the right wing Phalange Party and the Druze sect to which he belongs. Junblatt said that he defines his allies and adversaries according to their stance toward "the collapse of the Phalangist regime in Lebanon, no more and no less, toward the collapse of the Phalangist course, no more and no less."

The Lebanese leader criticized the PLO leadership and renewed his support for the opposition wing in the Fatah movement headed by Nimr Salih, Abu Salih. He was replying to a question about his relationship with the liberation organisation, especially after he recently stated that his forces in the Ash-Shuf mountains are now driving out "infiltrators" from the Palestinian fighters who entered the mountain regions during the battles last month.

He said: "I ask first and foremost for a clear political line. Until now some factions, or the main faction in the Fatah movement, have not defined a clear political line, whether it is toward internal developments in Lebanon or toward the Arab situation; therefore, I consider them as infiltrators who have come from this organization."

He added that he meant "a specific faction," and not the liberation organization, whose leadership "has not measured up to the sacrifices that the Lebanese National Movement, patriots, and people in Lebanon have offered to the Palestinian revolution."

He explained: "We expected a greater effort and more loyalty from the leadership of the liberation organization. The liberation organization's leadership has neglected the Lebanese people and at certain stages aborted the struggle of the Lebanese National Movement" before and after its departure from Beirut under the pressure of the Israeli military blockade more than a year ago.

Junblatt, who is to leave here today at the end of his visit after talks on the Lebanese crisis with the Italian prime minister, said

that in the event of an American military intervention in Lebanon, "we will fight regardless of the cost." He added that the Americans prevented his forces from storming the strategic town of Suq al-Gharb "through their direct intervention."

Regarding the blockade his forces are imposing on the town of Dayr al-Qamar, in Ash-Shuf, he said that this subject must be dealt with calmly because in addition to the civilians in this town there are "murderers lead by Samir (Ju'ju)"; therefore, the subject of Dayr al-Qamar is not only one of migrants but it also concerns Phalangist militias that have taken refuge in Dayr al-Qamar and are making it into a Joseph's robe." He stated that he met to discuss Dayr al-Qamar with the patriarch of Antioch and the East Maximos Hakim "and we will try as soon as possible to find a solution for Dayr al-Qamar."

On Palestinian, Syrian Presence

NC100651 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] In an interview published by the West German magazine *Der Spiegel* today, Junblatt said he will not allow any Palestinian presence in South Lebanon as in the past. He said: "We will call on the Israelis to apply with us a Golan-type method. He added that there would be no reason for the Syrians to remain [in Lebanon] if the Israelis withdrew."

Ceausescu Receives PSP's Walid Junblatt

For coverage of the visit by leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party Walid Junblatt to the Socialist Republic of Romania, see the Romania section of the 11 October Eastern Europe Daily Report.

PSP Source Attacks Regime's Position on Talks

NC090837 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Text] Walid Junblatt returned to Damascus yesterday from Rome. He described his talks in the Greek and Italian capitals as useful. Regarding the meeting of the Dialogue Committee, he said that the contacts are continuing to decide on the venue of the meeting and its agenda so this historic meeting will succeed.

Meanwhile, the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] questioned the Lebanese regime's procrastination in fixing the date and venue of the dialogue, and asked: "Is this the result of differences among the dialogue parties or is there an effort by certain parties to circumvent and foil the proposed dialogue?"

A responsible PSP source said that the statements of the Phalangist militias are still preparing the atmosphere for a civil war. The Phalangist militias have not learned anything from the hard lesson they received in the mountain battle. The same source attacked the Chamber of Deputies' call for the deployment of the Army in the mountain and for the liberation of the land before the reconciliation. The source expressed surprise at this patriotic awakening among the deputies and their speaker. He said: "We

wish that they would have had this awakening when they were discussing the 17 May agreement. The source also attacked the information campaign launched by the official information media against the civil administration scheme in Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh and their insistence on considering it as a scheme to partition Lebanon.

Christians Denounce Pope-Junblatt Meeting

NC071640 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT
7 Oct 83

[Text] This morning, a silent march was staged by the inhabitants of Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh. The marchers proceeded to the house of the U.S. ambassador in Al-Hazimiyah. The road was cut for 2 hours. A letter addressed to the U.S. government was handed to U.S. Ambassador Dillon, asking it to quickly seek the release of the Dayr al-Qamar inhabitants and a halt to the massacre in Ash-Shuf. Ambassador Dillon understood the request and promised to act quickly.

From the house of the U.S. ambassador, the marchers went to the Apostolic Nunciature where a similar message was delivered for transmission to His Holiness Pope John Paul II. The message said: Your Holiness the Pope. While truly appreciating your efforts for the sake of the church and the Lebanese, especially the Lebanese Christians, we would like to express to you our bitterness and surprise at your reception of the person who is primarily responsible for the massacre of Christians of Al-Matn, Ash-Shuf, and Dayr al-Qamar.

It is difficult for us to accept the fact that the Vatican can simultaneously be with the criminal and with the victim. Is it reasonable that you abandon your solidarity with our fate and to shake the hands that are still smeared with the blood of our martyrs? We recall what you did in the past when you received 'Arafat in the wake of the martyrdom of President Bashir al-Jumayyil. At a time when 65 Christian towns were destroyed, looted, and burned; when monasteries and churches were destroyed and turned into rubble by bulldozers; when the elderly, women, and children were slaughtered and whose bodies have been waiting for 27 days to be buried in a respectful and humane manner that the dead deserve, and when 30,000 Christians continue to be held hostage in Dayr al-Qamar, it is difficult for us to accept your reception of the person who is primarily responsible for this tragedy, namely, Walid Junblatt who has seceded from the Lebanese legitimacy. Your Holiness the Pope, allow us to express our strong denunciation.

Syrian Reinforcements Reported in North

NC071859 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT
7 Oct 83

[Text] A Palestinian source in the Tunisian capital has affirmed that the situation is extremely dangerous in northern Lebanon and that it may lead to a new test of strength between the Syrians

and the Palestinians. The same source also spoke of the arrival of new Syrian reinforcements to the area including two armored brigades, paratrooper units, artillery batteries and heavy tanks. Informed sources have said that France is mediating with Syria at the request of some Arab countries so as to get Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and his group safely out of Tripoli. A Syrian land blockade and an Israeli sea blockade are restricting 'Arafat and his supporters.

Israeli Spokesman on Al-Awwali Bridges

NC072220 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT
7 Oct 83

[Text] There has been a great deal of talk about the intention of the Israeli Government to close the Al-Awwali River bridges to prevent military operations against the IDF. A spokesman for the Israeli liaison office in Lebanon [name indistinct] made the following statement tonight:

The bridges on the Al-Awwali are open for vehicles to pass all hours of the day. Israel has no plan to close the passes to the south. The IDF will continue to take security measures so as to keep the southern area safe from the infiltration of terrorists. He affirmed that Israel will remain committed to supporting a unified and [word indistinct] Lebanon.

Palestinian Commandos To Strike Syrian Interests

NC101320 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT
10 Oct 83

[Text] According to information received by the Voice of Lebanon, a 20-member Palestinian commando group belonging to Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] left Tripoli last week for some Arab and European countries to strike at Syrian interests. The reports added that this group, which had received special training for about 1 month in Al-Barid camp, has been furnished with maps and documents pointing out the Syrian interests and diplomatic missions. Another 30-member group is scheduled to leave in the next few days to join the first group. The two groups will not resort to terrorist actions unless Syria strikes at the PLO in Tripoli.

Briefs

New Presidential Adviser — Muhammad Shuqayr has been appointed a special adviser of President Amin al-Jumayyil effective 1 October 1983. [Excerpt] [Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Oct 83 NC]

'Arafat Claim of Siege in Lebanon Denied*JN082130 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2110 GMT 8 Oct 83*

[Text] Damascus, 8 Oct (SANA) — An informational source has stated the following:

The repeated statements by Yasir 'Arafat and some of his supporters regarding a siege on the camps in Tripoli and the imminent breakout of fighting between their forces and the Syrian forces are no longer worthy of attention. Such baseless statements have been going on for months.

We have said before and are still saying that it is better for them to tell the truth and admit that what is taking place is a conflict within the Fatah movement and that Fatah cadres themselves are acting against mistakes to correct the Fatah course. These cadres see that the current state of affairs inside Fatah is not in harmony with the movement's resolutions and conferences and does not serve the Palestinian question. Any fighting which may have taken place in the past took place within the Fatah movement. Should there be any fighting in the future it will also be within the Fatah movement. Syria has not fought and does not intend to fight anyone working in the Palestinian arena, be they individuals or groups.

McFarlane Leaves Without Meeting Junblatt*JN091750 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1705 GMT 9 Oct 83*

[Telephone dispatch from Louis Faris, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus — live or recorded]

[Text] During the last 24 hours, Damascus witnessed an important chain of events and important meetings. U.S. envoy Robert McFarlane suddenly arrived here before noon today and held talks with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. However, McFarlane left for Beirut without holding a scheduled meeting with Walid Junblatt. This made observers believe that the subject of the identity of neutral observers and other topics related to a [Lebanese] dialogue will probably be suspended until the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] leader's return from a visit to Bucharest. Junblatt left Damascus for the Romanian capital this evening.

Yesterday evening, Junblatt and PSP sources made several statements, the most important of which were related to Dayr al-Qamar. The PSP reiterated its pledge to allow relief convoys to aid the evacuees until a political solution to their problem is found. However, the PSP expressed surprise at the fabricated clamor over the issue, especially since no voice was raised about the rest of the evacuees in the mountain area.

Junblatt held a number of meetings with some leaders of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement. This afternoon he met with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Earlier he received some Lebanese Army officers who joined his movement. According to the PSP sources, about 800 Lebanese officers and soldiers have already joined Junblatt, including 40 high-ranking officers.

Junblatt told our radio before his departure for Budapest [as heard] today that Major General Nadim al-Hakim, chief of the Lebanese Army Staff, has joined his movement.

Commentary Asserts Right to Advanced Weapons*JN081442 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Oct 83*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, U.S. State Department spokesman Alan Romberg made a statement citing U.S. papers on reports allegedly based on information from U.S. intelligence agencies regarding the shipment of Soviet field missiles to Syria. Romberg said that the introduction of new and important Soviet weapons in the Middle East will increase tension in the region. He added: We are aware of the method of importing Soviet weapons to the Middle East and are closely watching these developments. When the Soviets bring new and important weapons into the region, this will only result in increasing the current tension there.

The first thing that one notices in the statements by the U.S. State Department spokesman and the White House on this topic is their strange speed in issuing statements and threats and the strange harmony between the work of U.S. intelligence, the U.S. press, and the U.S. administration. This new commotion makes one wonder if by doing this the U.S. Government wants to cover up the new U.S. military aid to Israel and the shipment of sophisticated U.S. weapons to Israel, which commits aggression, invades, and violates the law.

The world at large knows that the United States has turned Israel into a real military barracks saturated with weapons, an advanced military base to use against the Arab national liberation movement, and a tool to terrorize, blackmail, and dominate the region's peoples. The world also realizes that with U.S. aid in particular, and Western aid in general, Israel has achieved military superiority not over one Arab country, but over all the Arab countries. This enabled Israel to launch aggressive wars, occupy other people's land, and usurp the national rights of an entire nation, that is, the Palestinian people.

The U.S. rulers are committed to openly secure this superiority and they affirm this commitment on every occasion by every president. Thus, how can the provision of weapons to the invader, the aggressor, and the occupier be a legitimate affair in the eyes of the United States and an affair that does not increase tension, while the provision of weapons to those against whom the aggression was committed and whose land and rights were usurped is an increase in tension and a matter that attracts Washington's attention and discussion?

Without going into detail about what was leaked by U.S. intelligence and dealt with by the U.S. press and U.S. Administration, it must be said and affirmed that Syria is an independent and sovereign state and a member of the United Nations and has the right, even the duty, to work toward securing all means to defend its territory and people, their rights, dignity, and achievements.

There is nothing in the UN Charter or even in international law that prevents an independent and sovereign state from endeavoring to exhaust all necessary means to defend independence, sovereignty, rights, and territorial integrity.

Syria, as President Hafiz al-Asad said, is determined to defend itself against any aggression whatsoever and against the threat of aggression. It will not be deterred by any threat, warning, commotion, or lies by the United States and Israel. It is known that the UN Charter grants every people whose land and rights were usurped the right to defend themselves using all means and methods available to them. Weapons in the hands of those against whom the aggression was committed, whose land was usurped, and who are threatened by the territorial expansion of hostile forces do not threaten peace and security and increase tension and the threat of war, but help peace efforts and the endeavors to implement UN resolutions. However, weapons placed in the hands of aggressors, invaders, war criminals, and outlaws, such as the Israeli rulers, is a factor that encourages aggression and increases not only tension, but also the threat of war and the eruption of military conflicts that may not be limited to the region's boundaries. One wonders: Why does the United States worry about the possibility of Syria's possession of sophisticated weapons but does not worry about reports that Israel is involved in the production of nuclear weapons? Why does the United States worry if the Arabs increase their defensive capabilities in order to confront Israel, which devoured all the territory of the Palestinian state, occupies land that belongs to four Arab countries, and announces territorial ambitions that extend from the Nile to the Euphrates, while it is not worried by providing Israel with sophisticated weapons which Israel uses to invade, commit aggression, expand, commit crimes, and violate international law?

The U.S. position is completely biased in favor of Israel and is incomparably hostile to the Arabs, particularly to Syria. The United States is held responsible to a great extent for all Israeli aggressive actions, Israel's policy and expansionist schemes, and the possibility of its being involved in the weapons of mass destruction. Every U.S. arms shipment to Israel increases Washington's responsibility for Israel's actions, aggression, and behavior and increases tension and the threat of war in the region. Those who are eager to establish peace must prevent the aggressors from gaining more weapons, not attempt to prevent those against whom the aggression was committed from obtaining more weapons to defend themselves.

AL-BATH Criticizes U.S. Activities in Lebanon

JN100900 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT
10 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "U.S. Attempts To Explode the Situation," *Al-Ba'ith* says: Confirmed reports say that the United States—in complete cooperation and coordination with Israel, the Phalangists, and the Lebanese Government—is working to create a very serious explosion in the Lebanese security situation. Lebanese nationalist circles say that this U.S. stand is due to the feeling by Washington and its agents in Lebanon that the [Israeli-

Lebanese] agreement of submission on which they pinned high hopes is now dead. The hopes to impose Phalangist hegemony on Lebanon have also collapsed following the new factors that appeared after the battles in the mountain and Ash-Shuf areas which have clearly drawn up the main lines for the future of an Arab, unified Lebanese territory and people. *Al-Ba'ith* adds: It is obvious to everyone, particularly those in Lebanon, that the Reagan Administration is currently attempting to ignite the security situation by unleashing the Phalangists on the cease-fire, which has been adhered to in many areas, such as Iqlim al-Kharrub, and by setting them on unarmed citizens. *Al-Ba'ith* continues: In its attempt to ignite the situation, the Reagan Administration was not satisfied with instigating the Phalangists to violate the cease-fire or with inducing Israel to reinforce its military presence on Lebanese territory by setting up military airports and other fortifications—clearly showing that something is being prepared to threaten the unity of the Lebanese territory and people. It has recently launched an intensive campaign against Syria with the aim of holding Syria responsible for any future development. This is done under the slogan that Syria's strengthening of its defense capabilities threatens the region and its security. Western media affirmed yesterday and the day before that Washington's aim in launching this campaign against Syria is not only to ignite the security situation in Lebanon, but also to deploy Pershing missiles in Israel. These media say that the enemy prime minister-designate and his foreign minister will visit Washington within a month for this purpose. The paper says: Who is threatening the region's security? Is it Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces, or the United States, Israel, and their agents in Lebanon and other places? It has been ascertained that the U.S. Administration is driving the region toward the precipice. In cooperation with the agent Phalangist group, the United States is working to destroy the cease-fire agreement with the aim of obstructing the national dialogue process.

In conclusion, the paper says: Arab Syria is perfectly aware of the attempts Washington is making in cooperation with Israel and the isolationist groups. It is absolutely wrong in believing that Syria will allow such attempts to be revived. Regardless of the threats, Syria is fully determined to affirm the Lebanese cease-fire and to begin the national dialogue process in order to bring about a unified Lebanese territory and people and to establish a strong, Arab Lebanon. In his historic speech last Thursday, President Hafiz al-Asad asserted that Syria will not be lenient toward any call to strip Lebanon of its Arabism.

Lebanese Paper Predicts Cabinet Reshuffle

JN081236 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT
8 Oct 83

[Text] The Lebanese newspaper *An-Nahar* today reports that a major cabinet reshuffle may take place in Syria in the wake of the recent Middle East developments, particularly in Lebanon. The paper adds that the new Syrian Government may be headed by Chief of Staff General Hikmat ash-Shihabi, and the Foreign Ministry by 'Adnan 'Umran, Arab League assistant secretary general who was once Syria's ambassador in London. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam may be appointed President Hafiz al-Asad's special envoy and one of the president's chief advisers.

Levi Makes Statement at End of Cabinet Session

TA091939 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1835 GMT 9 Oct 83

["Announcement by the Spokesman of the Prime Minister's Office" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Jerusalem, 9 Oct (ITIM) — At the end of the economic debate, which lasted over 6 hours, and before he closed the last regular session of the outgoing Cabinet, Deputy Prime Minister David Levi made the following remarks: "It is still too early to sum up the performance of the Cabinet and the deeds, contributions, and achievements of Prime Minister Menahem Begin. However, it is certainly possible to state that the government led by Menahem Begin brought about a historic change in the political sphere, a change which peaked in the peace with Egypt, the improvement of Israel's international relations and the strengthening of ties with the United States. It also made a decisive contribution in the national sphere by deciding to populate all the areas of Eretz Yisra'el with 180 new settlements in the Galilee, the Golan Heights, the Jordan Rift valley, Judea and Samaria, the Negev and the 'Arava.

"The Cabinet fulfilled its responsibility to secure the well-being of our settlements in the Galilee and destroyed the terrorists' infrastructure in Lebanon and gave rise to hopes for calmer and more secure times in the north and perhaps even to hopes for peace.

"The Cabinet also coped with difficult domestic problems, fighting poverty, reducing economic distress, devising housing solutions for young married couples and large families, eliminating slums and providing housing for new immigrants. The Cabinet continued to develop social services in Israel despite the economic difficulties which plagued Israel and the world to which we are connected. Despite the economic obstacles and difficulties we secured a system of services vital to the community and we continued to rebuild the poor neighborhoods, a project which can today be described as the largest social enterprise ever tackled by any Cabinet.

"Prime Minister Menahem Begin was not only a team man but also an incomparable democrat, firm and steadfast in his struggle for causes in which the national interest was debated, both in Israel and abroad. He remained sensitive and open-hearted to the problems of Israeli society and, more than any other man in his post, he was close to the problem of the man in the street. Prime Minister Menahem Begin is the architect of the Likud, which he regarded as something good in the political and partisan spheres in Israel. He is the representative of all the components of the coalition which he considered the unified national camp, and he made efforts to maintain this partnership amid mutual respect among its members. Let us learn from his leadership and his moral authority. It is only due to his leadership that the Cabinet was able to overcome all the crises and tests that stood in its path.

"The continuation of this coalition's partnership, as reflected in the decision to form the new Cabinet, is founded on the same common basis which has already proved itself. We will do everything possible to continue and be worthy of this vital enterprise, especially these days.

"On behalf of all the Cabinet members, let us send from here our blessings and best wishes for a speedy recovery to Prime Minister Menahem Begin and our wholehearted gratitude for all he has done. Through our deeds we wish to console him for the suffering he has experienced through the years."

Reportage on 10 October Knesset Session

Shamir Address

TA101215 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Speech by Prime Minister-Designate Yitzhaq Shamir to the Knesset in Jerusalem — live]

[Text] Mr Speaker, honorable Knesset: On Yud Daled Bekislev [Hebrew calendar date for 21 September] I was asked by the president, in accordance with Clause 13 of "The Basic Law: The Government" to form a government... [Interruption by MK Shulamit Aloni who holds up a doll with an inscription on its chest] I am honored to present to the Knesset today the government I have formed. I feel today the full weight of responsibility I undertook in view of the tasks and challenges facing the country and the people. The burden is ten times as heavy knowing whose place I have taken standing before the Knesset today.

The resignation of Prime Minister Menahem Begin astounded the people of Israel and the diaspora and filled numerous hearts with apprehension and regret. For his friends and followers, it appears the world has fallen apart and they have not yet accepted his difficult decision. Today still they are broken-hearted. It was impossible to accept the retirement of the man who for 40 years was at the center of Jewish history, who led the underground war against British rule in Eretz Yisra'el, who led the Knesset opposition and determined the framework for real democratic struggle, who gained the confidence of the people, assumed power as prime minister, and for 6 years led the country from the first peace treaty with a neighboring Arab country and on to breathtaking campaigns which strengthened the security of Israel for generations to come.

Begin initiated large-scale social enterprises that revolutionized the lives of tens of thousands of families in Israel and laid the foundations for an Israeli policy based on peace and on firm defense of the objectives and honor of the state of the Jews. Now that his resignation has become a fact that cannot be changed, we have no choice but to accept it and take the steering wheel in hand and brace ourselves to continue in his footsteps for the sake of the people and the country.

Mr Speaker, the government which I am presenting to the Knesset today will operate according to the same basic guidelines put on the Knesset's agenda when the previous government was presented on He Be'av, hatashma [the Hebrew calendar date for 5 August 1981], 5 August 1981. The one exception is the clause concerning the Golan Heights since, following the Knesset's decision on Yud Het Bekislev hatashma [the Hebrew calendar date for 14 December 1981], 14 December 1981, on extending Israel's law, jurisdiction, and administration to this area, it was no longer necessary to have this clause among the guidelines. The

coalition agreement signed before the presentation of the previous government and put on the Knesset's agenda on He Be'av hatashma [Hebrew calendar date for 5 July 1981] 5 July 1981, is binding on the present government as well. We have neither added to it nor deleted anything from it.

When I approached the task of forming a government I thought that in view of the major, weighty, and serious tasks we are facing, it is our duty to try and form a national unity government which will first and foremost consist of the two large parliamentary blocs. I was convinced that with the help of such a government the chances of overcoming the country's social and economic difficulties would be greater and, in addition, that such a government would arrest the process of polarization in the nation which threatens our integrity and unity with its exaggerated dimensions, that such a government would contribute to the improvement in the atmosphere and would return us to the norms of democratic and civilized argument.

I was convinced that such a government would enhance the image of Israeli deterrence in the eyes of enemies who began to think that Israel is weakening due to the strong and loud disagreements, that such a government would enhance our political status in the international arena, in the eyes of both friends and enemies.

As a result of this effort we had the rare opportunity of earnest, deep, and candid dialogue between the representatives of the Labor Party and the Likud on several major issues on the national agenda. The deliberations were conducted with sincerity, good spirits, and with the desire to find a common basis on which to form a special government that would be able to act according to an agreed plan of operation.

To my great regret this was impossible due to the deep differences of opinion over the political issues discussed and the unwillingness of the Labor Party's representatives to try and bypass the disputed points for a certain period of time.

Today, too, I believe that, objectively speaking, it was possible to establish a national unity government, provided that no side had attempted to impose its views on the other. This would have been possible for a definite period of time, until the next elections, on the assumption that until then we would not have needed to make a political decision on disputed issues.

I regret that we failed to form a national unity government, which most of the people greatly desire. At the same time, however, I am convinced that the dialogue was not in vain. The good atmosphere prevailing during it proves we should continue to make attempts at a dialogue even when they do not yield far-reaching political results. Our society, our needs and constraints cry out for more mutual understanding, for more readiness and open-mindedness in listening to each other. There are several areas in which it is both vital and useful to have close contacts between government and opposition, so as to share in thought and deed vital issues that concern us all. I intend to abide by this frequently in the future. If we ever have the opportunity to again attempt to form a national unity government I will not hesitate to try again even if I risk another failure.

Mr Speaker, the need for more unity, for recognizing that all Israelis should stand by one another, for having a love of Israel above partisan affiliations, are a supreme national necessity. It need not necessarily find its expression in common political frameworks; it must be felt in all walks of life here. Let us not forget that we are still building a people and a society. We should be prepared to absorb still additional millions of Jews who come to give their hand and soul to the building of the homeland.

There are still also numerous dangers within and without. Let us not allow polarization and rifts to grow uninterrupted. It is absolutely necessary to invest an all-out effort to foster the unifying element, to daily demonstrate the simple rule which is clear to every Jewish heart and which says that we are one people. We should educate people and call for a return to our roots in Judaism and in Zionism to prevent unnecessary disputes, to cultivate any element acting for more national and social solidarity, on behalf of our people's honor, and to promote the love of Israel among us.

Guaranteeing the soundness and strength of our social fabric is a task of supreme priority. The security, power, and prestige of the State of Israel are based on the internal strength of the people living in it. The soldier serving in the army, the laborer working in the factory, the teacher in the school, each in his place or position should recognize that we are all members of one people who are building their homeland and society despite risks, difficulties, and differences of opinion. The happiness of each individual depends on the welfare of all and therefore we should act together on the basis of mutual consideration and overall national responsibility. The achievements of the individual have value and importance only when the society to which he belongs is stable and secure.

Mr Speaker, we have lately been plagued by economic shocks, as is the case in many countries around the world. Luckily, we have managed, despite the shocks, to maintain full employment and even promote the pace of investments. However, we are still facing difficult problems with inflation, curbing private consumption, decreasing the size of the budget allocated for public purposes, encouraging exports, decreasing imports, decreasing the deficit in the balance of payments, and progressing toward economic independence.

We will have to adopt special measures to handle these problems immediately and simultaneously. In this area, the government will implement an economic policy that will include a cut in public spending, a cut which was already discussed at the end of the previous government's term, as well as additional measures and actions to balance the budget and solve the major economic problems. These actions will demand a joint effort by all parts of the public. The standard of living and consumption will be lowered, except among the weak social strata. We cannot afford consumption that is not based on our productive effort. We should consume what we can produce and decrease our dependence on outside loans. This will call for declining demand, which is incompatible with the health of the economy. In its economic policy the government will aim to renew growth based on increased production and employment in the manufacturing and export industries. At the same time, the economic policy will aspire to curb the inflationary process by cutting the budget.

Allocating resources will be done in a way that will encourage investments in the employment and export sectors according to a predetermined order of priorities. All of this will be done while defending the weak strata of the population. In order to guarantee the allocation of sufficient resources for encouraging investments, production, and growth, the government will work to decrease the budgets allocated for public purposes and to curb public and private consumption. There will be a fair distribution of the burden based on giving priority to economic growth.

The economic policy will be harnessed to this objective while emphasizing fair taxation, decreasing the subsidies to a reasonable level, increasing the collection of taxes and taking social needs into consideration. The government will pay particular attention to maintaining the competence of production and exports and to properly boosting productivity at work. To this end we will maintain a credit policy which will match economic developments as well as maintain a real currency exchange rate. We will pay particular attention to maintaining a combined policy of prices, wages, and income which will promote our economic and social goals. We will maintain full employment and will promote the weak strata, which need encouraging, in the framework of project renewal, for instance.

Our economic development depends on us, on us alone. This government, which will enjoy a Knesset majority, is authorized to, entitled to, and must adopt economic decisions as the situation requires. We will make and implement these decisions unhesitatingly and without wavering. However, all those who demand the implementation of economic decisions are requested to stand by our side not only with their demands and criticisms but also with their support for the implementation. Let nobody impose on the other the shouldering of the economic burden. We should shoulder it together, with understanding and readiness, if we want to solve our economic problems. Let us make demands on ourselves and on the public. A combined social and economic policy, as we will establish, will advance us forward, both toward economic independence and toward social justice. The public is required to lessen the level of personal demands in order to make the normal development of the economy possible. Our standard of living, in real terms, has increased in recent years far beyond the possibilities of the country. Therefore, we will have to accept the fact that the standard of living will cease to rise for a certain period of time, until we reach a balance and achieve economic recovery.

This government, Mr Speaker, will continue the blessed action begun by the previous Likud-led governments in the sphere of eliminating the poor neighborhoods, relieving crowded lodgings, guaranteeing proper housing for every family and for every young couple at reasonable prices, providing welfare services to mothers, to children up to the age of compulsory kindergarten age and to the elderly. Decreasing the social gap, challenging the educational problems this creates, continuing to promote weak strata — these are the great educational challenges of Israeli society. We will continue to act energetically for an increase in the number of graduates in all high schools. In an era of advanced technology we must continue to cultivate our qualitative edge by excellence and distinction in science and technology. Above everything else, we will work to improve motivation by fostering the basic values of Jewish culture.

The government will also continue with the project which is the cream of the crop of the social policy of the previous government, that is, project renewal, which has scored impressive achievements already. It is absolutely necessary to continue and conclude it in order to complete the revolutionary change which this project introduced into many villages and quarters throughout the land.

Mr Speaker, our security is first and foremost based on the strength and might of the Israeli Defense Forces, the army of the people, the defender of the motherland, the glory and pride of the resurging State of Israel. In the last year, the IDF withstood yet another test when it eliminated the terrorists' nests and bases and guaranteed the well-being of the Galilee inhabitants and our northern border. It proudly passed this test, and peace was restored to the north of the country.

The government will persevere in promoting, strengthening, and equipping the IDF with the best advanced weapons in order to have it always ready to carry out its double mission: to deter any element conspiring to harm Israel's security and to repel and defeat any enemy threatening the country and its inhabitants.

Israel's security situation is immeasurably better than ever before, since we resumed our independence. In the south, we have a peaceful border with Egypt. In the north, the terrorists were removed from Lebanese territory. In the east, the bridges on the Jordan River are open and there is a willingness to maintain peace along the border. Only along the northeastern border with Syria is there a security alertness stemming from the hostility and aggressiveness of the Syrian regime. Despite the relatively calm situation, we must always remember that we are living in an area which is still unstable and prone to upheaval. This stems from the nature of the regimes surrounding us and from their continued hatred for Israel and the fact that they have not come to terms with our existence in the region. This situation obliges us to maintain a constant security preparedness and alertness. This will be one of the central missions in the government's list of priorities. [heckling by Hadash MK Tawfiq Tubi]

The outgoing government headed by Menahem Begin registered two achievements with far-reaching implications for Israel's status in the Middle East and its relations with its neighbors. The ring of absolute hostility surrounding Israel was broken for the first time with Egypt in 1978 and for the second time with Lebanon in May 1983. The change in the wake of these agreements is not confined to the sphere of bilateral relations with Egypt and Lebanon. A revolutionary change has occurred in Israel's status in the entire region. Israel has become part of the area surrounding it, not only on the map, but also in the tangible and practical dynamics of daily developments. We have become more involved in what is happening around us and we have stopped being a passive and isolated element closely following threats and dangers to its security. The reservations and fear about having contacts with Israel which characterized the years preceding the peace treaty with Egypt have, to a large extent, disappeared and there are quite a few expressions of willingness to hold contacts and a dialogue in order to hear our position and at times even use our counsel.

In the last few days we witnessed a superficial change, which is not only important in itself, but also very symbolic. During the speech of our representative at the United Nations General Assembly, the representatives of all the Arab countries — as has been the case every year — left the hall except for the two representatives of Egypt and Lebanon. A year ago, only the Egyptian representatives remained seated. Let us hope that in the following years the number of those remaining seated will increase.

The events in Lebanon in the last 7 years, especially since the beginning of the Peace for Galilee Operation, accelerated this process because Lebanon represents and encompasses many of the phenomena and power elements active in the entire area. It is important to reiterate and emphasize that our intention is not to intervene militarily in the Arab countries, whether they are close to us or far away. However, Israel must be directly involved in what is happening in order to be able to protect its own interests. This involvement can be vital because it allows the use of political means in order to understand and prepare for developments and possible threats and at times even to predict and obviate the need to use military means at a later stage.

Israel is part of the region and if it succeeds in developing the ability and the means to learn what is happening in it, it will be able to promote the chances for mutual understanding, to achieve coexistence with its neighbors and to prepare the ground for relations of genuine peace with the nations in its midst.

The first Likud government headed by Menahem Begin made a breakthrough in the sphere of peace when it conducted negotiations with Egypt. Peace was achieved, albeit at a dear cost and with many casualties. The peace with Egypt which was inconceivable 6 years ago is today a fait accompli. Even if we are not happy about the content of the peace relations, we will strive to promote them, to enhance peace, and we will respond with peace even in the face of chilly behavior.

Nevertheless, we will not hesitate to continue to caution that the accords are not being fulfilled.

As for the relations with Jordan and with the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza, we have come quite a long way in the direction of solving the problems when we signed the Camp David accord. To our regret, they have not made use of this opportunity and have rejected our extended hand. Egypt also ended the autonomy talks despite President as-Sadat's letter according to which it should have continued conducting negotiations on this issue. We note again, if the parties concerned had so wished, we could have today already found ourselves at the stage of negotiations over the final, permanent status of the territories. We are again inviting Egypt to join the negotiations on autonomy and this is the call we address to Jordan as well as to representatives of the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip on whom we call to join the Egyptian or the Jordanian delegations. It should be clear to all that the Camp David accords are the sole agreed-upon document and as such the only way for the continuation of the process. Complicated and complex negotiations were conducted on these accords. It is impossible to demand that the State of Israel embark on another path. The Camp David accord was a breakthrough of historic dimensions,

a golden opportunity for the Arabs of Eretz Yisrael for the first time in their history and it would be a pity if this opportunity were to be missed. The incorporation of Jordan and the representatives of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza in the negotiations will be another link in breaking the circle of "no's" of Khartoum which, to our regret, are still heard in most of the Arab world even if cosmetic formulas sometimes mislead naive people.

Regarding Lebanon, our foremost interest — for which Israel launched the Peace for Galilee campaign against the PLO — is the security of our northern border. For that, and to establish relations based on peace with Lebanon — relations that are definitely an important element of security — we conducted the negotiations for an agreement with Lebanon. That agreement, achieved through complex negotiations between Israel and Lebanon with the participation of the United States, is the basis for future agreements. We agreed to the security arrangements it contains — not because they were ideal, but because it is a political-civilian agreement and we saw it as the minimum possible.

Let nobody think that by not implementing the agreement it will be possible to reach a settlement in Lebanon. All the sides to the agreement must realize that. If the Lebanese Government ratifies the agreement and if the conditions connected with it are fulfilled, that will be a blessing. We are interested in a sovereign and independent Lebanon, free of foreign forces on its territory, and having fair relations with its neighbors. We will continue to work to this end. No Arab country in the region can have the right of veto over Israel's relations with Lebanon. We will withdraw our forces from Lebanon when the security arrangements are guaranteed. In this regard, it must be noted that Syria's massive military presence in Lebanon increases the danger that Lebanon will again become a base for attacks against Israel. Therefore, the sooner Syria complies with the Lebanese Government's demand to withdraw its army of conquest from Lebanon, the better it will be for Lebanon and for the prospects of introducing quiet and stability to the entire region.

In concluding this part, it can be said that since we destroyed the terrorist infrastructure in Lebanon there is no absolute necessity for our military presence on its territory. We will be ready to return to our border the moment the Galilee's security is guaranteed. The presence of Syria, which supports a terrorist war against Israel from Lebanese territory, is preventing our withdrawal from Lebanon.

Mr Speaker, we have been given disturbing news about new types of arms reaching the Middle East and, as usual, every shipment includes newer and more sophisticated, more venomous, more murderous means than its predecessor, and this is in addition to the usual unceasing stream of destructive tools that are common to this area from both the East and West. Missiles from the East, planes from the West.

Perhaps the time has come to appeal to the peoples of the area and call upon them to stop for a moment and ask themselves: For how long? Has the time not come to stop the insane destructive race which has neither logic nor purpose? Are we short of weapons in the Middle East? Have there not yet been enough tragedies in wars? It is not arms which the Middle East

is short of, but peace. Let us give the peoples of the area a chance to live in peace and quiet, without bloodshed, to settle their quarrels and disputes. I am not only referring to the dispute between Israel and the Arabs. There are wars and disputes which are far more cruel in this area, far more dangerous.

We appeal to all the peoples of the Middle East and their governments and call upon them to stop the insane destructive race and come to the negotiating and peace tables. And we say to the superpowers. Have pity on this war-weary area. Let its nations and its inhabitants have the chance to live their lives in peace like your own peoples in your enormous countries. Do not send the products of your advanced military technology here. Help this part of the world use its manpower and natural resources to develop its economy and advance its culture.

Mr Speaker, the relations of trust, friendship, and close cooperation with the United States are vital for us and for the stability of the entire Middle East. This closeness comes from common values and a tradition of mutual sympathy between both peoples and also from a set of common interests which have stood the test of events and changes in our area. The Government of Israel will continue to do everything in its power to develop and deepen our links with the United States in all fields. The differences in political positions that emerge from time to time between us and the United States are a natural and understandable phenomenon and do not overshadow the strong alliance and atmosphere of friendship characterizing bilateral relations. The statements by the U.S. President about the U.S. friendship for Israel and its commitment to its security encourage the nation of Israel and strengthen peace in the area.

Our link with the European Continent has many roots whose origin lies in the history of its peoples from the distant past to this very generation — our generation — in which more than a third of our people who lived in Europe were exterminated in the terrible holocaust of World War II. At the same time, there have been ups and downs in our relations with the European countries, the low points occurring as a result of positions taken by European governments on the issue of the conflict in the Middle East. We may note with satisfaction that there has recently been an improvement in our relations with the countries of the European Community which are important, both politically and economically. We will persist in our activities among these countries and their peoples in order to bring them closer to our position and expand cooperation with them.

The countries of Eastern Europe and the leadership of the Soviet Union continue to remain apart from us and avoid official relations with us. Romania is the only exception and we maintain normal, friendly relations with it which serve the interests of both countries.

The boycott by Moscow lacks logic and purpose and contradicts the normal rules of relations between civilized nations. We find it hard to understand what damage would be caused to the Soviet Union's interests if it were to renew normal relations with Israel and permit its Jewish citizens to live as Jews and permit those among them who wish to do so to return to their historical homeland in Eretz Yisra'el. We are calling on the Soviet authorities to reexamine their attitude toward the State of Israel and

the Jewish people. We are convinced that if such an examination is made, historic justice will be done and the chances for peace in the Middle East will be strengthened.

For several years we have been vigorously working to renew relations with the countries of Africa and Asia, which were severed after the Yom Kippur War. There is also an awareness among many governments in those parts of the world that there is no longer any justification for not maintaining ties and surrendering to the pressure of Arab countries. A renewal of relations serves and will serve both them and us. We hope this activity will yield positive results in the near future.

We maintain good relations with a definite majority of the countries of the Latin American Continent. The changes occurring on that continent, their implications for the Jewish communities throughout the continent, and the great potential for economic and political cooperation that exists in those countries also commit us to deepen our relations with them and make them closer.

Mr Speaker, we must not forget for even a moment that the State of Israel is not only the country of its citizens, Eretz Yisra'el is the country, and the State of Israel is the country of every Jew, wherever he is. The State of Israel needs and desires the millions of Jews who are still living in the diaspora; the diaspora Jews must, for the sake of their Jewish future and existence, return to their homeland. This is a historical law and a national goal. Settlement and the guarantee of the security of the country will be impossible without the immigration of millions of Jews from the countries where they are living. The existence of the Jewish diaspora with all its variations and types, in both free and oppressed countries, is impossible for any length of time without a massive stream of immigration from the diaspora to Israel.

We must fight against the inhuman policy of closing the exit gates to the Jews of the Soviet Union. The State of Israel and the entire Jewish people must not rest and relax until the gates of the Soviet Union are opened wide and the masses of Jews longing for their homeland are permitted to go to their country. And before that, those fighting for the freedom to immigrate and who have been sentenced to cruel suffering for their desire to be with their people must be freed from the prisons. Today we send our blessing to those people and the suffering and persecuted in the Soviet Union for their desire to come to us. Be strong and courageous, brethren, we are with you and the day of your redemption will come soon. And, to our brethren in nearby Syria who are jailed by the judgment of cruel rulers and who are prevented from leaving and being united with their families and people, we say: You are not alone in your misery and suffering. The Government of Israel and the Jewish people throughout the world identify with you. We will do all we can do to come to your aid and we will say the same, too, to our brothers and sisters in the other distressed countries in which the freedom to come to us has been taken from them.

From other countries, where the freedom to leave for Israel fully exists, only a thin stream of immigrants is reaching us. The war there will, perhaps, be harder than in the oppressed countries. There we have to fight for the soul of every Jew in danger of surrender, assimilation, and, heaven forbid, severance from the

body of the Jewish people. This war is in our souls. This is the war for the existence of the Jewish people. It must be at the top of the list of the country's priorities. What is required here is wide and intensive action to conquer hearts, using all methods possible to open a path to the hearts of the Jews of the diaspora.

We must also invest in and open up paths to Jewish settlement throughout the whole of Eretz Yisra'el. The previous governments led by Menahem Begin did great and devoted things in this field. Jewish settlement has determined its future and has lit up lights in many new places, in the Galilee and Samaria, in Judea, the 'Arava, and the Golan Heights, but this holy task must not be stopped and cannot be stopped; it is the core of our life and living, and the heart of our life cannot be stopped.

Exaggerated figures are being published about giant investments in settlement which are, as it were, coming at the expense of other national requirements. There are many exaggerations in figures, for settlement, as a whole, is not being entirely done with public money. We have been lucky enough to attract private capital; ordinary Jews too are building their lives in many places outside the country's crowded coastal strip, but it is clear that settlement needs the state's helping and encouraging hand. That hand will be extended to it, as much as it can.

Mr Speaker, we often bring troubles upon ourselves. Superlatives of doom and gloom are very common in our political lexicon. Let us not exaggerate. Let us see matters in their proper perspective. It is true we are faced with problems that are not easy, but with which we must cope. We are a small nation which has to stretch its ability in order to stand up to all the tests and challenges it has set for itself. But this has always been so, ever since we became a nation, and by the power of belief and the historic need we were able to and we did overcome. Our generation, which saw the sharp transitions from the abyss of the Holocaust to the heights of liberation and redemption, cannot do anything other than expect, in belief and confidence, a future filled with blessings and progress. We will believe and we will be able, for after all, the story of the State of Israel since its establishment to this day has proved to be an unprecedented success story.

And now, Mr Speaker, I have the honor to present to the Knesset the government I have formed in accordance with the task given me by his honor, the president of the state, as is the law:

Yitzhaq Shamir — prime minister and foreign minister

David Levi — deputy prime minister and housing and construction minister

Aharon Uzan — minister of labor and welfare and minister for the absorption of immigration

Yoram Aridor — finance minister

Moshe Arens — defense minister

Yosef Burg — minister of the interior and minister for religious affairs

Mordekhai Ben-Porat — minister [without portfolio]

Pesah Grupper — minister of agriculture

Sara Doron — minister [without portfolio]

Zvulun Hammer — minister of education and culture

Yitzhaq Moda'i — minister of energy and infrastructure

Ya'akov Meridor — minister of economics and interministerial coordination

Yuval Ne'eman — minister of science and development

Moshe Nisim — minister of justice

Gid'on Pat — minister of industry and commerce

Mordekhai Tzipori — minister of communications

Hayim Corfu — minister of transportation

Eli'ezer Shostak — minister of health

Ariel Sharon — minister [without portfolio]

Avraham Sharir — minister of tourism

I ask the Knesset to express confidence in the government and approve the basic guidelines of its policy.

Peres Address

TA101500 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0907 GMT
10 Oct 83

[Speech by Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres to the Knesset in Jerusalem on the occasion of the presentation of the new government by Yitzhaq Shamir — live]

[Text] Honorable President, Mr Speaker, Honorable Knesset, the outgoing prime minister did not explain to the Knesset the reason for his resignation. However, the main reason for it obviously lies in the tragedy that he himself created. The tragedy was attributed to the war of choice, and, Mr Speaker, it also befits the correct economy [the name applied to Finance Minister Yoram Aridor's policies]. It was an economic and political tragedy, and now a government of continuation is being presented to compound this tragedy. Congratulations, new ministers. This is a government of continuation of the tragic strategies of the preceding government, a government of continuation in its personnel which implemented the previous policies and is responsible for them. In its place, the same government will be set up which will not abound in parliamentary support, which will not be blessed with new men, which will not resolve its internal disputes, which will not be free of the small factions' pressures, a government that has not learned lessons, a government that will continue to move on false economic tracks and will continue to work toward creeping annexation and vacillation in the Lebanon war. It is the same tragic government — only without Menahem Begin. It was Menahem Begin — foremost in your eyes — who tried to draw lessons from the tragedy that all of you are responsible for, that all of you were

partners to, and now you are hurrying to shake off your responsibility for what happened. You are sitting in the same chairs and giving some praise to the prime minister, who has not even come to the Knesset. The majority of the people wanted a different government — broadly-based, one fortifying its policies. Many of the people wanted to see the conclusion of a national consensus, at least in those areas in which it is possible and vital. And even more so, they longed to return to a country based on work, an economy that strives for true independence, for strengthened and balanced national security, for the renewal of the peace process. The prime minister-designate, however, preferred a narrow base, and, in any case, a broad dispute. He quickly clung to the comfort of the previous, small coalition and established a conservative government, which is joyful — and no one knows why. Sometimes, one should dispute a program — but a dispute, by itself, is not a program. Whoever wants... [MK Me'ir Shitrit interrupts] [Words indistinct]

[Peres] MK Me'ir Shitrit, that is a relevant question, and I will answer it. It is a dispute, which by itself is not a program. Whoever wants to understand the dispute that has erupted in our house must examine the true reason for it. Then it will emerge that it was not differences of opinion that caused the political and economic failures. On the contrary, the policies you adopted are what led to the huge failures. And the failures, by necessity, have deepened the differences of opinion, and they prevented the establishment of a national unity government.

The government is ashamed to own up to its failures and is attempting to separate itself from them. The opposition refuses to be harnessed to failing and unchanging policies and to adhere to them. Why should we continue with the same policies? It was not difficult to predict the failures. There are two schools among us — the grandiose school, the school of talk and delusions, which is blinded by its own rhetoric and which fills the people with a spirit of fanaticism and intolerance and which is increasingly carried along by false messianism.

Opposite that school is the more difficult school of true policies, and one which knows what is wanted, but which also recognizes what is possible. It is the school that is true to the generations-old dream of our people, but which knows how to assign the job of realizing it from one generation to the next with patience, stubbornness, and consistency. Knesset members, disappointment is the offspring of delusions. Tragedy is the result of pipe dreams. We saw that in the Lebanon war. Your trumpet blasts — those sounded by you, the members of the grandiose school — are still ringing in our ears, proclaiming a three-sided peace involving Egypt, Lebanon, and Israel. We will revamp Lebanon and include it in a new order. We will save the Christians from a holocaust similar to the holocaust we suffered in the diaspora. We will present the land of the cedars as a strategic Israeli prize on the platter of U.S. policy. We will organize a great Middle East, new and disciplined. We will maintain strategic coordination with the United States. Syrian and PLO forces will be removed from all of Lebanon. A peace alliance will be established between us and Lebanon. How ridiculous today is the sound of the trumpets of this grandiose school.

What price has been paid by the nation, one that you promised to do well by? What price has been paid for those delusions? It is

a price that will not be forgotten, a price that has not yet been fully paid, a price that need not have been paid, a price that also broke the national consensus, since there was, and is, a national consensus that the peace of the Galilee must be secured, a consensus that to secure the peace of the Galilee one must sometimes also carry out an action limited in extent, range, time, and objectives, and, in any case, also in the number of fallen — and then to return home. Our stay in Lebanon will lead to the establishment of a Lebanese coalition that will compromise with Syria, reconcile itself to the de facto division of Lebanese territory, that will allow the terrorists to regain a foothold amid the fragments of this political parcelization. And this time, Knesset members, you do not have to speak with the literature of prophecy, but with the literature of warning — to quote an expression of Kafka.

The grandioseness has failed, but its possessors are ashamed to admit its failure, and they are declaring a government of continuation. What are they going to continue: the same things? The grandiose school believes that it is possible to make a correct peace, just as it made a correct economy. It believes that the fruits of peace can be picked without investing in the cultivation of peace. It believes in a one-sided peace that does not require taking the existence of another side into account. Cabinet members, how can peace be achieved without a peace plan? How can autonomy be achieved when it is impossible to reach an autonomy agreement despite your having a permanent chairman in the autonomy negotiations? How can a peace option be retained while ignoring the existence of a large Palestinian public which is under our control? How can the nonannexation of hundreds of thousands of inhabitants be guaranteed by the creeping annexation of the territory on which they live?

In the talks we had for the establishment of a national unity government, we tried to create a new political climate to open the way for the peace process. We said: Let us again invite Jordan to join the negotiating table; let us invite it on honorable conditions for it and for us — that is, without preconditions. We will bring our demands, and it will bring its demands. The purpose of negotiations is to bridge gaps and not build gaps, on the one hand, and preserve them, on the other. We said: Jordan can enter negotiations on the basis of 242 and 338 — two resolutions, Mr Prime Minister-Designate, that Jordan accepted. It is not true that the Camp David agreement is the only document the Arabs have accepted, as you said. [sentence as heard] Resolution 242 was also accepted by Arab states and Israel. Camp David is also based on that agreement. We said let us bid farewell to the autonomy model formulated by the previous government, which did not lead to any movement. Let us return to the version of autonomy as it is set down in the Camp David agreement. We said: Let us not dig in behind the total and immediate rejection of the Reagan initiative. We spoke about the initiative and about the plan; let us enable the United States to continue to play the role of a power that establishes peace between us and Jordan. We said: Let us differentiate between settlements that strengthen our security and those that weaken the State of Israel, settlements that will make Israel turn into a dispute-torn country, full of quarreling, and in which there will forever be a terrible hatred between a large Arab minority and a fairly small Jewish majority. There is no argument between us about our right to Eretz Yisrael. The argument is over the supreme duty of all of us to

preserve Israel as a Jewish and democratic state

Some of the settlements are not a hold on the land, but a hold on a transitory opportunity. We could learn a most illustrative lesson about that from the founder of 'Immanu'el, Rabbi Pinhas (Erenreich). Rabbi Avraham Shapira, they say he is going to replace you in that newspaper, but I do not know if that is true. However, in an interview with him that appeared in *Ma'ariv* last Friday, he was asked what would happen if 'Immanu'el was transferred to foreign sovereignty. He answered: Do you want to know the truth? What will happen? Let them return what they want. Who says that a coalition with Shamir is better than a coalition with Husayn? 'Immanu'el, with God's help, will stand forever.

[Ge'ula Kohen interrupts][Words indistinct]

[Peres] With God's help, 'Immanu'el will stand and exist forever. But the interviewer insisted and asked again: And if Husayn listen Knesset members, this is very interesting — does not accept your plan? And Pinhas (Erenreich) gives a classic answer: What do you mean does not accept? Meshuggena [Yiddish for crazy], he will jump for joy. We will make a small Vaduz for him here, without taxes, without customs shmustoms, without headaches, foreign currency free for the asking, billions in deposits from people living abroad, a real party. Husayn will not accept? Why should he not accept? What Zionist dream...

[MK Avraham Shapira interrupts][Words indistinct]

[Peres] I am only quoting. What a Zionist dream — from Basel to Vaduz. From 'Immanu'el to Katrielivke [imaginary town in a Shalom Aleichem story]. Yes, Mr Shapira, that is why I am surprised. If he imitated you in economic matters, I could understand it, but he even promises Husayn billions. You promise all the inhabitants of Israel, and he promises Husayn too.

Knesset members, all the proposals we made...

[Knesset Speaker Menahem Savidor interrupts, calls for quiet]

[Peres] Is that 'Immanu'el? It is Katrielivke. All the proposals we made were rejected in the same spirit of grandioseness and delusion. Mr Speaker, it is a difficult duty for me — but one from which there is no escaping — to warn our people that by ignoring the need to resume the peace process we will create fertile ground for the resumption of war with the Arab world, a world which in any case has a tendency toward aggression, and one that is arming itself more and more with modern weapons, with the technology of our times. Certainly, we must maintain our technological advantage and our human capability. But you, in your budget, are cutting defense spending and spending for technological development. You, in your budget, are making cut-backs in higher education, which advances the country's human and technological quality. We must search for political answers, not just technological ones. The new-old government again with its eyes closed will hurt both the defense and education budgets. Grandioseness — and in its wake, an inevitable tragedy — characterizes the government being presented today; it is a government whose entire future is its past, in the economic sphere too.

Mr Shamir, I heard you say what you are going to do in the economic sphere. I want to ask you a simple question. For 6 years you have been sitting in the government — the same Mr Aridor, the same Mr Pat, the same Mr Hammer, the same Mr Meridor, the same Mr Shostak — why did you not do it until now? Why have you not kept a word of what you said? Why have you wasted money — more than what we earn? Why do you think that someone in the nation will believe you? Belief must be founded on your record. How can you come and read us a long list of the things you are going to do? Why did you not do them before? You are a senior member of this government. You bear collective responsibility. And you propose the same Mr Aridor, the same Pat, the same Shostak, and those same empty seats.

Hundreds of thousands of citizens woke up one morning in one city to learn, Mr Shapira, that the government and the banks had decided to take \$1.5 billion from their savings. How can you describe it as such a great success? You did not ask the nation; you did not ask the Knesset — you decided to punish citizens for their naivete. Yes, a question.

[Shapira] Just a minute. I have asked for Mr Peres' permission. I thank you. I want to tell the Knesset members a few words...

[Peres interrupts] No, I do not agree. You can ask me...

[Shapira interrupts] To the nation, the nation, the nation. But you are not letting me speak. You did not hear me, and I ask you not to quote me. Mr Peres, the banks began to regulate the shares in 1972. I am answering Mr Peres.

[Savidor] I am in charge of regulating the discussion. Do you have a question for MK Shim'on Peres? There is no room here for speeches or explanations. Either a question or a comment, but that is all. Anything else is for the discussion.

[Shapira] Knesset speaker, Mr Peres spoke to me, and I want to say a few words at this point. Only to explain the matter of the shares. This is the payment for a time when you slept in your beds at night while all the banks, including Bank Hapoalim, made billions in regulating [not further specified] and you attack me?

[Savidor] MK Shapira, please sit down. I am sorry.

[Peres] In 1972, MK Shapira, there was no inflation of 150 percent. You are the chairman of the advisory council of the bank. Did you not know we were approaching bankruptcy? Why did you not warn us? Because Minister Aridor, the finance minister, got up and spoke to the public, can you believe it? Have you now remembered 1972? Fine. It is MK Peres speaking. It is not Bank Hapoalim that rules the Bank of Israel. The Bank of Israel rules Bank Hapoalim, and the finance minister — in whom you are now asking for confidence — got up and told the citizens: Trust me, if I had money I would buy a share. [Uproar in the Knesset] Knesset members, hundreds of thousands of citizens —

can I ask for quiet? — Rafi — hundreds of thousands of citizens —

[Knesset Speaker Savidor] You are interrupting the speaker. I request —

[Peres] Hundreds of thousands of citizens woke up one bright morning to learn that the government and the banks had decided to take, not from Judaea and Samaria, not from 'Immanu'el, but from them, \$1.5 billion. Did you ask the nation? Did you ask the Knesset? Did you ask the Knesset finance committee? You decided to punish people for their naivete, for their belief in the government's word, for their honoring of the bank's promise.

It is as though they said [further uproar in the Knesset] — it is as though they said — change the government; change these gentlemen [last word in English] change you and them, change the people responsible, that is what I wanted [uproar continues in Knesset] It is as though they said you did a lot and I did nothing in life. You brought about great and miraculous things, no? Are you preaching to me about the trip? It is as though they said, do not trust Israeli currency, do not rely on an Israeli share [bank share], do not believe the government's word, and the public that believed will now pay the price of Yoram Aridor's adventure, the price of the grandiose [last word in English] fraud of the correct economics.

This January the new-old finance minister was interviewed in the press, in almost all the press. What a spectacular picture he painted, almost like in Lebanon, listen: The commercial deficit will not rise. It will drop. There will be a cost-of-living increment of 100 percent. Inflation will drop to 90 percent. Exports will increase by 15 percent. The education budget, Mr Hammer, will rise. There will be no economic cuts. And, in the end, the correct policy of the correct economics will continue. What a series of bluffs! [last word in English] What a lack of seriousness!

And it is to this government, Knesset members, that you want to give confidence, Mr Berman? After all, we need, and you, after all, are against nationalization of the banks, Mr Berman, after all, we need to remain, all of us, you, too — you have destroyed national morale. You have damaged the nation's belief. You scattered vain promises. You took the nation's money in order to acquire voters for your party in a disgusting way, and now you want to take twice that amount from the nation.

Mr Shamir and Mr Aridor, do you really believe that a nation can or should live on charity from abroad and cheating at home? Is it really possible to maintain an economy without a genuine effort in industry and agriculture? Are you entitled to waste the nation's resources that were intended for the younger generation too?

You created an atmosphere of an easy sweet life, of an imaginary economy, of a black market. I am sorry to tell you, today, in your remarks about foreign affairs also, you again described a sweet picture, like nothing else, without foundations. How can you present yourselves like this, coalition partners, before the nation, before the Knesset. Now you admit — only partly, it is true — the terrible failure in the economic field, but, as usual, Mr Shapira, you are beating the breasts of other inhabitants as a mea culpa, the breasts of the country's inhabitants, of the workers' community. You are inviting us all to kneel down before you and you are demanding that we be partners in your great failure and that we should even thank the Lord, blessed be he, for your kind willingness to make us a passive partner to your insanities. We will not agree to such a partnership. We will not agree to such a

partnership.

We will not agree because we do not intend to hide from the nation what really happened, the failure whose existence you are not prepared to admit and from which you are not prepared to draw conclusions, either personal or national ones. On the contrary, we will say in a clear voice: your path on economic affairs — Knesset Member Eyud Olmert, we managed a country, there was never 150 percent inflation in it, we managed a country, we never... [heckling from the Knesset, the Knesset speaker begs for silence] We will say in a clear, loud voice: Your path on economic matters, foreign affairs and security is not our path. There are differences of opinion between us all along the road. You want to take from the social needs, education, health, from the weaker classes, to take measures in order to fulfill your imaginary political objectives, objectives that have no national agreement and we say, first of all, take away from the expenses of your base policy before you hit at the people, its immunity, its security. Stop taking from the workers' community and wasting hundreds of millions of dollars on villas in Samaria. Make a decision about the Lebanon war and afterward appeal to the nation. Drop a billion dollars from your grandiose [last word in English] political plans and afterward speak about a correct economy. Curb easy profits before you take from the wages of the workers' labor with which they hardly exist today. Invest in the developments, towns, not in your election campaigns. We have seen, we have seen, Knesset members of the coalition... [further heckling drowning out some of Peres' words] Knesset Member Olmert...

[Knesset Speaker Savidor — interrupting] I request you not to interrupt. There was an agreement in the previous session not to interrupt even the head of the opposition and I am asking you not to interrupt.

[Peres] We have seen what you discussed in your marathon [last word in English] coalition talks. You did not discuss Lebanon; you did not discuss peace; you did not discuss economics; you discussed your narrow party needs; what every small party demands to join the prior agreement of the 64. We were prepared to extend a hand to save the country from its difficulties, but you continue to base yourselves otherwise. I also heard an echo of this in Mr Shamir's remarks. It has always been difficult for us to accept your delusion about the country. There are no difficulties; all you want us to do is raise our hands and not actually put our shoulders to the wheel.

Knesset members, we will go to the nation and speak the truth. It is not the stock exchange that will save Israel. We will return to a policy of growth instead of a policy of taking from foreign banks. We will return to a policy of exports and not to a policy of flooding the country with imports. We will return to the fields of the Negev and Galilee which are strangling under the burden of the insane inflation that you created and we will not continue with a policy that simply tells the country: Rejoice and be happy, my people. We will not promise, as Aridor promised, an easy life, easy economics, a simple life in return for no work. We will go back to developing industry, extending higher and basic education, deepening independent research and we will go to elections with the promise to build up a country, not buy voters.

Mr Shamir, with all due respect to you, if there was a right spirit in you, in view of what has happened over the last 2 days, even before you went to the president, you should have come to the Knesset today to propose elections and not a new government. You have nothing to continue with. You have a bankrupt policy and the people find themselves in a deep crisis. You have no program and you have no way out. Only the nation can decide the right path to extricate the country from this political, security, and economic crisis. The nation is in this crisis because you put it there.

Knesset members, we are proposing early elections immediately, without any waste of money, without a long election campaign. If you have confidence in the nation, let us, all of us, go to it and ask it, for the problem is no longer one of ministers and parties. The problem is of citizenship and state and even knowing as we do that you will not do this because the 64 have agreed among themselves not to go to elections. We will serve as the opposition and as an alternative, and we will prove that there is an alternative and you will continue to prove there is a need for an alternative.

Mr Shamir, we have no confidence in the Cabinet you have presented, which has nothing new in it and there can be no second thoughts on this; no lessons have been learned. What there is in it is a stubborn repetition of all the mistakes you have made. We have no confidence in your policy. We have no confidence in the composition of the Cabinet and its breadth. With genuine hope we are proposing to the nation an alternative of a genuine Eretz Yisra'el, a working Eretz Yisra'el, not an Eretz Yisra'el of grandiose lies, but an Eretz Yisra'el which has greatness in it and which can be a model state in our history and for other nations.

Shamir's Concluding Speech

TA101722 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1635 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Speech by Prime Minister-Designate Yitzhaq Shamir prior to Knesset vote on the new Israeli Cabinet — live]

[Text] We heard new tunes here today, a new demand from the opposition. Give us new, early elections. I must say this is not serious because before we formed, before we managed to form a government, you did not demand elections. When you went to the president you did not recommend elections. You recommended that the task of forming a government be given to you, a limited government, as you call yourselves. So it is not serious. After we formed a government, you now come along and say in the Knesset: Now we should go to elections. Excuse me, that is not serious. The Likud has never been afraid of elections, but one forms a government not in order to go to elections, but to manage the country.

I have been attacked for my words. I have presented a continuation government to the Knesset. What did you want? That I should not come and say that I want to continue Menahem Begin's path? And did you want me to come and say that I regret, that we regret all we did over the past years and we beg your forgiveness and pardon? Of course, we are establishing, and we

want to establish, a continuation government, a continuation of the path, a continuation of the policy, a continuation of society, a continuation of immigration, a continuation of settlement. You said there was nothing new in my words. I want to tell you, to tell you a secret: There was nothing new in your words of criticism. Nothing new. We heard it 1 year ago, 2 years ago, 5 years ago, 10 years ago. This is a continuation government and that is continuation criticism, a continuation opposition. The continuation is in the path, the ideological path, the views.

I did not say and will not say we will not make any changes. That is not what we said. In running a country, there is also sometimes the need to make changes. Settlement — a great deal has been said about settlement. Knesset Member Peres dug out pearls from the remarks of a Jew named (Ehrenreich), who is one of the heads of the builders of a town in Eretz Yisra'el, 'Immanu'el, and I would like to say to Knesset Member Peres: If Jews who built Jerusalem, who built Tel Aviv, who built Petah Tiqva, Haifa, had been interviewed 70 years ago, 80 years ago, what would they have said about the political coloration of the towns they were building, about their future political coloration? But their rights lie in the fact that they built those towns.

There was once a king in Israel and his name was 'Omri. [Shouting in Knesset] Listen, that is too serious, and I do not want to compare Mr (Ehrenreich) to King 'Omri. He was not a very just man, King 'Omri. And, nevertheless, our forefathers said of him: Why did 'Omri win the kingship? Because he added another town to Eretz Yisra'el and the name of the town is Samaria. The Jew, Mr (Ehrenreich), from whose remarks you pulled out so many pearls, is building a town and a mother in Israel named 'Immanu'el and his kind will increase in Israel and such towns will increase in Eretz Yisra'el and he will be blessed for all that his hands do.

Further on settlements, we have been told and accused that we are wasting hundreds of millions of dollars in Judaea and Samaria, but as you told us and as we know, you, too, are in favor of settlement, beyond the 1967 lines, in Gush 'Etzyon, in the Jordan Rift Valley, around Jerusalem. Does settlement not cost money there? Is everything free there? Therefore, say that you are not against settlement because of the fact that it costs money. You are against settlement in Samaria, in Judaea and Samaria, because you want to give those settlements back to non-Jewish rule. Do not speak about hundreds of millions of dollars to us.

Knesset members, I do not want quarrels or disputes. I began my words in this debate with an appeal for unity, national unity, and I want to conclude with this. Knesset Member Peres said hard words in his remarks. Your path is not ours. Your plans are not our plans. It was hard to hear those words, but we are not deterred. I continue to believe in national unity and I say that a national unity government is possible. I call upon you not to let fly with arrows, but lay them down, put shoulders to the wheel.

I am speaking in the name of all my colleagues. Today we will establish a government, a government in Israel, but we will continue to work for national unity and for its political expression, a national unity government.

Knesset Approves Cabinet 60-53

TA101707 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT
10 Oct 83

[Text] The Knesset has approved Yitzhaq Shamir's new Cabinet. Sixty Knesset members of the coalition supported the Cabinet and 53 voted against it. After the vote the ministers and the prime ministers were sworn in.

Shekel Devalued, Basic Commodity Prices Up

TA110537 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT
11 Oct 83

[Text] The price of basic commodities will go up by 50 percent and the shekel will be devalued by 23 percent in comparison to yesterday's rate. These are a few of the Cabinet's decisions from last night. The Cabinet session ended a few minutes ago after about 10 hours of marathon debates.

As for the bank shares, it was decided that after 5 years the government will purchase them, linked to the dollar, for 85 percent of their value. The basis for assessing the value of the shares is the rate of the dollar last Thursday. Those preferring to

do so will be able to lock up their money for 6 years and then will be able to receive their money fully linked [to the dollar]

Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that basic commodities will go up in price tomorrow. Frozen meat will go up by 40 percent.

Minister Moda'i said that gas will go up tomorrow as well, probably by the same amount as the devaluation.

Our correspondent has learned the details of the Cabinet session. Finance Minister Yoram Aridor demanded a devaluation of 30 percent. However, Minister Moda'i's proposal was accepted. The energy minister left the Cabinet session furious at midnight but returned after about an hour, and it seems he decided not to resign. MK Shapira, the head of the advisory council of the Bank of Israel, also rushed to the Cabinet session after hearing the Cabinet was about to be presented a proposal regarding the bank shares which, in his opinion, would cause too great a loss to the small investor. According to him, his view was finally accepted and the loss will be as small as possible. It also seems that for the time being the deposit for imports will remain intact.

ALGERIA

CPSU-FLN Issue Joint Communiqué on Visit*LD081320 Algiers APS in English 1013 GMT 8 Oct 83*

[Text] Algiers, 8-10-83 (APS) — The four-day-official-visit paid in U.S.S.R. by Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Politburo member, responsible of the C.C. Permanent Secretariat, was sanctioned by an F.L.N.-CPSU joint communiqué. The CPSU representatives stated the activity strived by their party so as to consolidate and to more improve the socialist society developed in conformity with its 26th Congress decisions, plenary sessions of November (1982) and June (1983) of the CPSU Central Committee, as well as its foreign policy aimed at safeguarding international peace and security and led against aggressive attempts of imperialism.

The F.L.N. party delegation stated on its turn, the activity achieved to ensure the success of social, economic, and cultural development plans of the Democratic and People's Algerian Revolution aimed at setting up in Algeria a socialist society. It also informed about the preparation of the F.L.N. party 5th congress, Algeria's action on the international scene in favour of peace, liberty, and peoples' independence.

The two delegations declared concerned by the serious deterioration of the international conjuncture, by the recrudescence of tension due to the imperialist aims contributing to the increase of hot points, to its interferences in the local affairs of sovereign states, as well as its attempts to extend zones of influence and to increase the arms race. All this shows the increasing aggressivity of imperialism which may lead to a nuclear conflict threatening the future of the whole of humanity. The two sides analyzed with a particular attention the situation in the Middle-East and declared convinced that any just and last solution must necessarily be based on the achievement of the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people. They stood for the immediate and unconditional evacuation from all the Arab occupied territories and reaffirmed the necessity for P.L.O. the unique and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, to take part on an equal footing in any process of settlement on the question.

The two sides which declared concerned by the situation (?prevailing) in north-west Africa stressed the necessity of a solution to Western Sahara problem in conformity with the UN and the OAU Resolutions. The two parties expressed their solidarity with the struggle of peoples from Chile, Salvador, Nicaragua, and other countries from Latin America against imperialism and the fascist regimes. The two parties noted with satisfaction the increasing contribution of the Non-aligned Movement to the struggle for the consolidation of national independences, the setting up of a universal and real peace and security, the end of the arms race, the democratization of international relations, and the implementation of a new international economic order. [Word indistinct] the high level of Soviet-Algerian cooperation, which meets clear interest of the two peoples, participants stood for the carrying on of its development in all fields in this regard, a protocol of agreement on relations between the CPSU and the F.L.N. party for 1984-1985 was signed.

French Premier Mauroy Interviewed on Relations*LD091217 Algiers APS in English 1100 GMT 9-Oct 83*

[Text] Paris 9-10-83 (APS) — Between Algeria and France dialogue became a regular and a permanent practice. We hope that relations between our two countries present an exemplary character in as many possible fields. Mr Pierre Mauroy, French prime minister, said in an interview to the APS in which he evoked in substance the subjects dominating the Algero-French [as received] and expressed the position of his country over the problems of international policy. Answering a question on immigration, and the action led by the French Government in the socio-cultural field and that of the security, Mr Mauroy underlined that the French Government especially decided to lead an energetic and steadfast action to the benefit of the insertion of the immigrant workers and their family which leave [as received] at present in France.

After having recalled the Franco-Algerian from the 27 December 1968 and exchange of letters of September 1980 in the dispositions arrive to expiration by the end of this year. [sentence as received] Mr. Mauroy affirmed: "I do not doubt that our two countries reach a fruitful accord, consistent with the Algerian immigrants in France.

As concerns the initiatives which could contribute to give a boost to the North-South dialogue, Mr. Mauroy thinks that a political will must be affirmed on the part of the industrial big powers "and that the countries of the South should also promote new relations such that to link problems of disarmament and that of the development." (?However? the interest rate and to obtain new and substantial means in favour of international financial institutions as well as guarantees for the stabilization of raw material prices. [sentence as received])

Of the international situation linked directly or indirectly to France and the probable proposals of settling some conflicts for the settling back of peace in these regions, Mr. Mauroy answered: You want to speak, I presume of Lebanon and of Chad in the two cases, the French prime minister said, our objective is clear. It is to favour, when guaranteeing the maintaining of peace in these regions, the conditions of a dialogue of a political negotiations between the adverse parties and that under the sponsorship of the interested international institutions as concerns the UN or the OAU.

French Premier Arrives*LD092000 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Oct 83*

[Excerpts] French Premier Pierre Mauroy arrived in Algeria this evening for an official visit at the invitation of Brother Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, member of the Political Bureau and prime minister. Here are the details: At about 1800 the aircraft carrying the French premier, who is on a 3-day official visit to Algeria, landed at Houari Boumediene International Airport. He was welcomed on arrival by Brother Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani. After the welcoming ceremony, the guest headed for the VIP lounge where he made a statement to the national and international press in which he expressed his pleasure at

paying an official visit to Algeria for the first time in his capacity as French premier. He said the depth and quality of relations between the two countries permits dealing with the various facets of bilateral activity in all fields. Concerning the issues under study by the two countries, Pierre Mauroy confirmed that the common will of both sides will, without doubt, permit the finding of solutions, especially in view of the level which our relations have achieved thanks to the existence of mutual trust. This is a big victory for our two peoples.

The French premier explained that this mutual trust and the friendship between the two countries will enable the development of fruitful economic, scientific, technical, and cultural cooperation. After recalling the visit by French President Mitterrand to Algeria about 2 years ago, he praised the role played by Algeria at the international level and especially within the Non-aligned Movement. Afterwards, the French premier left for his place of stay. The Algerian prime minister will this evening host a banquet in honor of the French premier.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi on U.S. Colonization Plans

LD071845 *Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1607 GMT*
7 Oct 83

[Speech by Mu'ammad al-Qadhdhafi at As-Saddadah on Vengeance Day, marking 13th anniversary of Italian expulsion from Libya — live]

[Excerpts] Today we pray for the souls of the martyrs in the cause of freedom on Libyan territory. Martyr Muhammad Sa'dun as-Suwayhili, who gave his life for the sake of the freedom of this soil and his martyr colleagues, who sacrificed their precious lives for the sake of this land, lie in this cemetery here on Libyan soil. Rome mobilized huge armies for this place, As-Saddadah, and sent generals loaded with medals to attack the As-Saddadah citadel.

There is another state which is conceited; it is America. America is conceited as it believes that Libya, just as Italy used to in 1911. [sentence as heard] This conceited state needs its conceit to be smashed; its arrogance must be smashed on Libyan territory, on Libyan waters, everywhere by the Libyan hand which must strike at the nose of the United States. The United States behaves with disregard toward the Libyan people and toward the Arab nation just as Italy used to be conceited and used to behave with disregard toward the Arab nation and the Libyan people.

History, brothers, is repeating itself. Just as the crusaders and the Christian Western colonialist states used to exploit Christianity for colonialist purposes and used to attack and divide the Arab homeland, now the crusade forces have gathered, once more exploiting Christianity, and are embarking on a new assault this time so as to divide the Arab homeland once again. The United States believes that through the Gulf of Sidra it can force Libya to surrender, to leave the battle in Lebanon, to abandon its support for Syria, and to leave the battle in Latin America, which is our ally and which is fighting the common enemy, the great devil in America. The crusade states of today are gathering

between Beirut and Cyprus and are using Cyprus as a crusade base once more to march on the Arab East; U.S., French, and Italian warships are all now striking at the Arab territory in Lebanon and Syria. This is a new assault which requires, brothers, that we benefit by the (lesson) of the battle of Al-Musharrak and the battle of As-Saddadah and all our past battles in the Arab homeland; it requires new preparedness and the mobilization of our manpower and material potentials and our determination to prevent the new crusades from reoccupying the Arab homeland. I tell you that now the Western crusades are joining into alliance through the so-called NATO in order to bring back colonialism to your country.

Those enemies still claim the right to Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Morocco, and Libya. They are dreaming of redividing us. This is not just guesswork; their fleets are now bombarding Lebanon and Syria. The U.S. Sixth Fleet is there threatening us in the Gulf of Sidra. The general situation requires not slogans, not only chants and applause, but readiness to fight. We did not invade America. We did not invade Italy. Nor did we invade France. France is present near our borders and America is present near our borders. Italy attacked us and killed 700,000 Libyans and occupied our country for 35 years. Before that the Romans occupied this land, but we drove them out. The Italians reoccupied this land to bring back the grandeur of the Romans, but we drove them out. Now they have been trying again because they want to occupy it again. Throughout the centuries we have been defending our homeland. We are an oppressed people who are defending our rights.

This is to remind you that there are other battles that might come, like this battle. There will be martyrs who will be ready to die just like those martyrs. Blood will flow on this land to cleanse and liberate it. There are future battles that could come. The enemy is determined to enslave, conquer, and tear apart the Arab nation, at least. Now it is (?determined) to eliminate the Arab nation from the world.

We know that the socialists now rule in Italy. Our relations with the socialists are good. Our relations with the Italian people are good, because they are against colonialism and against fascism, which was a stage of colonialism, the colonization of Libya, but not its entire colonization. Libya was colonized before fascism. Then fascism came to consolidate colonization with its aircraft and its fleet at [words indistinct]. Leaders of the Italian socialist party who rule Italy now were put in prison in the latter days of fascism in Italy. If Italy today condemns fascism and colonialism, then it must pay the price for its 35 years of colonization in Libya. This is a right which the United Nations has supported.

If we cannot reach an understanding by goodwill, by negotiations, or by methods approved by the United Nations, which supports the right of the Libyan people to make an aggressor country like Italy pay the price for its aggression even after so many years, then all the Libyans whose fathers and forefathers were killed, whose homes were demolished, who lost their lives, livestock, and lands, and who had to flee to Tunisia, Chad, and Egypt, will have the right to act in the manner that would enable them to avenge themselves against the Italians and to retrieve their rights wherever their hands can reach and by any means they have. But we hope matters will not go that far. Today we

have reopened the issue with Italy. As of today, the Libyan people must express themselves and act in a manner that would compel Italy to pay the price for its aggression and colonization of Libyan territory. At present, Germany is paying the price for what Hitler did to the Jews. This is an international precedence to which we cling. Since West Germany has borne the onus for the sins of Nazi Germany, despite the fact that West Germany now is opposed to Nazism and still pays the price for Nazism to the Jews, present-day Italy could do the same as Germany. This is an international precedence we adhere to, exploit, and will not abandon.

Italy must pay the price for the actions of fascist Italy and pre-fascist Italy, which colonized Libya. The Libyan people must act as of tomorrow. They must express their views. They must tell the world that they do not want to see the tragedy of imperialism repeated again either on Libyan territory or anywhere else in the world.

Any country which colonizes another must pay the price, no matter how much later. This will constitute a deterrent to imperialism, bring peace, safeguard international security, and prevent the mighty from oppressing the meek at any era of history in the future. If the colonizer remains unpunished, colonization will continue at any time he wishes to humiliate countries other than Libya.

We want to establish a new legal principle in international law: The colonizer must be made to pay the price even after scores of years. The vendetta between us and Italy has not ended. We still have rights against Italy. I wish to say to you, however, that despite all this, we are friends with the current Italian Government. It is a friendly and peace-loving government. It works against imperialism and condemns fascism. The Italian people condemn the Italian colonization of Libya and they condemn fascism and pre-fascist Italy.

But if the present Socialist government in Italy or any other government and the Libyan people are truly against fascism and colonialism, they must pay the price twofold to the Libyan people in establishing a new principle in international law: the colonizer must pay the price no matter how much time lapses. Forward and the struggle continues.

'Reparation' Statement Read Outside Italian Embassy
LD081201 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1025 GMT
 8 Oct 83

[Statement read during "Vengeance Day" demonstration in Tripoli before the Italian Embassy — live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate.

To the Italian Government via its embassy in Tripoli: We families, sons of the mujahidin of Libya, whose names are contained hereunder, who suffered as a result of the invasion by the Italian Armies of Libyan territory from 5 October 1911 until the expulsion of their remnants on 7 October 1971; out of our historical and legal rights to full reparation for all the moral, material, and physical losses we suffered, as a result of the

treacherous invasion of our country, and under and after the fascist government, and which led to the killing of thousands of our kinsmen, the dispersal of our families, the destruction of our property, the devastation of our lands, the looting of its economy, and the imposition of (illiteracy) on its sons; because of this we submit this memorandum to the Italian Government and to the freemen in Italy, affirming our full right to reparation based on legal precedences applied against the German Government making it pay reparations to all peoples who suffered as a result of the Hitlerite invasion and based on the UN General Assembly's support of our right to reparation, and so that the Socialist Italian Government will contribute to the exacting of punishment on imperialism and fascism, and so that no country will contemplate invading or occupying another country, and so that this will be a lesson for the future.

We hope the Italian Government and the freemen of Italy will take the necessary measures to meet these just, humane demands. At the same time we preserve for ourselves the right to adopt the necessary measures that could guarantee the retrieval of our full rights. The amassed people of the popular congresses of the Tripoli municipality, who suffered losses from the Italian combat, submit these demands and await the speedy response of the Italian Government. Peace be upon those who follow the rightcourse.

Reagan's Criticism of Syria Called 'Hypocrisy'
NC100757 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT
 10 Oct 83

[Text] The head of the U.S. Administration has waged a campaign of criticism against Syria for obtaining new Soviet SS-21 missiles for defense purposes against U.S.-Zionist aggression being prepared against it. In an interview broadcast in Washington, the head of the U.S. Administration appeared as one working for peace. He claimed that the presence of the U.S. Marines in Lebanon is for peace in the area and that the United States, as he alleges, is working for a just settlement of the Palestine problem. In his hostile campaign against Syria, Reagan said: We must question Syria's good will.

As is evident from these statements, the head of the U.S. Administration speaks with imperialist logic. The stances he claims for himself and for his administration are but political hypocrisy and deceit. The argument of the head of the U.S. Administration portrays the firmness of the U.S. policy, which is namely to stir up the atmosphere, to impose hegemony through the use of force, and to threaten the freedom of peaceful peoples who refuse to bow their heads and who want to be free and independent decisionmakers.

It would have been more proper for the head of the U.S. Administration to disappear in shame during a discussion about peace, because peace is not made by those who send their warships and warplanes to exterminate Muslims and destroy the nationalist forces in Lebanon, or by those who promote terrorism and carry out continuous provocations against struggling people, such as the Libyans. It is our conviction that President Reagan is not qualified to speak about peace. He gave himself wide powers and deserted those around him to erupt wars, to strike women and

children with bombs, and to carry out massacres and operations of extermination in Lebanon. Nevertheless, he is attempting to continue to lie and to deceive. He has always been like a dumb devil who disregards justice. The justice which Reagan does not wish to admit is that the United States has armed the Zionist enemy to the teeth and has concluded with it a strategic alliance against the Arab nation in order to destroy it and to realize the Zionists' dream of establishing a state of their own from the Nile to the Euphrates. Being a dumb devil, Reagan is attempting to divert our attention from this plan which threatens our entity and existence. He fills the world with clamor by attacking Syria, denying it the natural right to self-defense against U.S. and Israeli aggression. The hypocrisy of a president such as U.S. President Reagan is exposed. Reagan does not deny the roots of his ties with Zionists. He wants to twist our arms by sending his 6th Fleet, and then he returns with blood-stained hands to speak about peace. May evil befall the ugly hands which are only good to wage war.

37 French Nationals Detained in Tripoli

LD101926 Paris Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT
10 Oct 83

[Text] Thirty-seven French travelers have been detained in Tripoli, Libya, since yesterday evening. They were scheduled to return to Paris but Colonel al-Qadhafi is not allowing them to leave. The 37 French people — men, women, and children — all have their papers in order, notably exit visas. People have been wondering over the past 24 hours why Al-Qadhafi had locked his doors in this way. There is perhaps a reason. A Libyan, an alleged terrorist, was in fact arrested by the Directorate of Territorial Surveillance [DST] in Paris last week.

[Correspondent Michel Barthelemy] Rashid Sa'id Muhammad 'Abdallah was indeed arrested over the weekend at the request of Italian authorities, who consider the Libyan national to be a terrorist. He is reported to have been involved in two attacks in Italy. Sources close to the DST state tonight that there is a direct link between this arrest and what one may now call the "taking hostage" by Colonel al-Qadhafi of the French nationals, who have still not been authorized to leave Libya. Moreover, it is noted that the arrest of the alleged Libyan terrorist occurred before the 37 French travelers were forbidden to leave Libyan territory. Initially, it had of course been considered that Tripoli's attitude could be explained above all by the profound differences of opinion on the settlement of the Chad issue. The French ambassador in Tripoli, Christian Graeff, even made a statement along those lines, indicating at the same time that there was no cause for anxiety and that relations between France and Libya had not been broken off; however, it has to be noted that this morning the French consul was scheduled to accompany the French nationals to the Libyan Immigration Service and that this evening we are still without any news. Does that mean that Tripoli is making the arrest of Rashid Sa'id Muhammad 'Abdallah a sufficiently important issue to put in the balance the whole of the relations, both political and economic, that France maintains with Libya, or is it that the alleged Libyan terrorist is too important to be left for any length of time in French jails? The next few hours will certainly provide us with the first elements of the answer.

Tripoli on British Maneuvers in Egypt

NC110850 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT
11 Oct 83

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has sent messages to Arab kings and presidents connected with the British maneuvers to be carried out in Egypt as of 28 October. These maneuvers fall within the framework of the new crusader campaign against the Arab homeland, which the U.S. Administration has kindled in Lebanon by deploying the 6th Fleet, the Marines, and the U.S. allied NATO forces to strike and exterminate the Muslims and the national Lebanese forces. These maneuvers coincide with similar British maneuvers to be held in Sudan this month as announced by lackey Numayri in Khartoum last night.

Allowing the use of Egyptian and Sudanese territory and turning it into a firing range for British and U.S. forces constitutes aggression against the freedom of our people in Egypt and Sudan. It is high treason by the regime in Egypt and its lackey in Sudan against the bitter struggle waged by the Egyptian and the Sudanese peoples to rid themselves of the dark era of British colonialism which lasted several decades.

The Egyptian regime is pursuing the footsteps of Khedive Isma'il and all traitors and mercenaries who betrayed the Arab nation and its sacrifices. The regime was not satisfied with turning Egypt into a firing range for the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces and a nerve center for the Zionist enemy's military operations, but also turned it into an arena for British military operations, thereby willfully harming the Egyptian people, provoking the Arab nation's feelings, and giving up the people's great sacrifices by leading the Arab nation to a bitter, ugly humiliation at the hands of the crusade led by the United States.

The Arab nation and its active forces must shoulder their responsibility in confronting and foiling the treason by Egyptian regime's President Husni Mubarak. The Muslims in Egypt are dutybound to confront the leader of this treason and to defend their Islam against the 10th crusader campaign which is being implemented against them in collusion with the Egyptian regime. The Arab states must shoulder the historic responsibility of what is taking place in Egypt and Sudan and should fully realize the dangers of the crusade campaign before the crusaders carry out their plans to destroy the Arab nation and before it is too late for regrets.

Our great nation will not accept failure, will not accept its sacrifices and glories being in vain, and will not accept a recurrence of its tragedies to be read out by generations in the wailing book.

Chad's Goukouni Makes Statement in Tripoli

LD092137 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, 9 Oct, JANA — President Goukouni Oueddei has reiterated the determination of the legitimate Unified Government of Chad to find a solution to the Chad problem within the OAU. President Goukouni Oueddei told foreign reporters in Tripoli last night that the legitimate government, which he heads, long ago had expressed, whether in Chad or outside it, its

constant readiness to find a solution to the Chadian tragedy inside the OAU. He added that the Vittel French-African summit had also recognized the need for finding a solution to the Chad problem within the OAU. Answering a question on the extent of the response of the legitimate Government of National Unity [GUNT] to negotiate in Ndjamen, President Oueddei said that he was ready to go to Ndjamen despite the presence of French forces which placed a red line between us and Ndjamen, and that this situation should be (?settled) and the French should go away from the line of our march to Ndjamen. He added that our negotiations in Ndjamen are very possible and we do not refuse to negotiate in Ndjamen because we believe in national reconciliation and are ready for this without prior conditions. Answering a question on the OAU efforts to find a solution to the problem of Chad, the president said we are waiting for the OAU to inform us of the place and time for the talks.

Answering a question on the military solution to the problem, President Goukouni said you know very well that the French forces are situated between us and the Habre forces, and that any step by us towards these forces (? will force us) to clash first with the French forces, and the French are certainly looking for this opportunity to internationalize the conflict in Chad, but we shall not make this matter easy for the French. Public opinion should know that our forces are not in the north only; rather they are spread in the country's southern, central, and east central regions. Also they move in all directions in the country and they are facing today the Zairian forces which are spread in the south in an attempt to eliminate our forces there at a time when the French forces have established a barrier in the direction of the extreme north.

President Oueddei confirmed that France was pursuing in Chad a policy aimed at our destruction, and the time will come when public opinion will know the truth about what is happening in Chad. President Goukouni recalled the previous stand of the French Government in Chad and pointed out that France facilitated the entry of Frolinat forces into Ndjamen in 1979, despite the fact that French forces were in it, and the taking over of authority from Malloum, ignoring by this the 1976 agreements on which they now rely.

Also why didn't France intervene in 1980 when war broke out between the forces of the Government of National Unity and those of rebel Habre in accordance with these agreements which France today uses as an excuse? If those agreements exist, as claimed by France, why does it not intervene to deter Habre's rebellion? President Goukouni said when we found that the presence of French forces was not in agreement with our independence and freedom, we asked them to leave and they did so, and those agreements were abolished then and thus they do not exist. He pointed out to the pressures which France has applied in connection with the demand for the request for the withdrawal of the Libyan forces and said that France, in order to force us to request the departure of the Libyan Arab forces, applied many pressures on us, including economic ones, after which we accepted the departure of the Libyan forces. And when Brother Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi was informed of this, he ordered the Libyan forces to leave Chad within a week, and during that week when I was in Paris to attend a summit

conference, President Mitterrand and all those who were taking part in the conference gave guarantees for the consolidation of Chad's safety and sovereignty and a short while afterwards you know what happened.

He said that the Libyans were not in Chad when the imperialist U.S. Administration and the U.S. intelligence service began to send arms to the rebel Habre and to give him millions of dollars. Also, Numayri and As-Sadat played a big role in this. Also the collusion of Zaire and Senegal, who sent forces to Chad, played a part in this filthy plot of evicting us from Ndjamen, and France did nothing at all and did not remember the agreements of 1976 about which it is speaking today in high-sounding terms. And when we organized our ranks in the same circumstances in which the rebel Habre organized his ranks in Sudan, Mitterrand brings out of his drawer these agreements and sends his forces to Chad to act as barrier against us and prevent us from advancing.

President Goukouni at the conclusion of his statement to the journalists asked: What have we done to the French people so that Mitterrand sends his forces, pointing out that the GUNT had never been at any time against the French people. And it contributed to the release of Mme Claustre and her husband at the same time when the rebel Habre murdered Major Pierre Galopin, who was sent to us as a mediator. He said: "And today the French claim that there are Libyans who are fighting in the battlefield. We have fought the Sudanese, the Zairians, and the Israelis. Why didn't Mitterrand say one word. And where are these Libyans whom France has been taking as a pretext for sending its troops to kill us? They must establish and prove the presence of the Libyans and their whereabouts.

TUNISIA

Prime Minister Receives French Foreign Minister

LD081934 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT
08 Oct 83

[Text] Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali held talks at noon today in Government Palace in Kasba, with Claude Cheysson, French minister of external relations. Beji Caid es-Sebsi, minister of Foreign Affairs, and Ahmed Ben Arfa, secretary of state at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in charge of international cooperation, also attended the talks.

Cheysson Attends Commission Meeting

LD090250 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT
18 Oct 83

[Text] The Tunisian-French Grand Joint Commission ended its work this morning under the chairmanship of Beji Caid es-Sebsi, minister of foreign affairs, and Claude Cheysson, the French minister of external relations. During the final meeting, Messrs Caid es-Sebsi and Cheysson delivered speeches in which they reviewed the results of the work of the Grand Joint Commission and the potential for developing bilateral cooperation in the light of the expected visit to Tunisia at the end of this month by French President Francois Mitterrand.

Beji Caid es-Sebsi recalled the condensed and continuous contacts which have been made bilaterally since the past session of the Grand Tunisian-French Joint Commission and since [word indistinct] the two countries for a working method whose aim is to investigate future cooperation between the two countries and to find the most effective way to advance this cooperation on the basis of the levels of development and of the joint political will for progress. Beji Caid es-Sebsi expressed his satisfaction with the ground covered [word indistinct] and with the results achieved by the Grand Commission. He pointed out that what both sides have achieved till now will pave the way for [word indistinct] bilateral cooperation which will open new horizons. Beji Caid es-Sebsi added: Of course, this does not mean that we are in perfect agreement on every issue. Some of them are complicated, going back some decades. But considering the current circumstances and the impossibility of solving the problems in one day,

I cannot but express my satisfaction with the spirit of the dialogue which controlled the work of the Grand Commission. I also consider that its results were (?fruitful).

The minister went on to express his happiness with the coming visit of the French President to Tunisia. He said he hopes that this visit will constitute an important event in the history of Tunisian-French relations and that the two sides will reach a settlement on the remaining issues so they can set about the bilateral cooperation in a way which [word indistinct] the political will which governs the two countries at the level of the (?current) changes in the region and the French president's historic visit.

CHAD

Habre Returns From Vittel Summit, Comments

AB071415 Paris AFP in French 1234 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Text] Ndjamen, 7 Oct (AFP) — Chadian head of state Hissein Habre returned early Friday morning to Ndjamen from Vittel (east of France) where he attended the 10th French-African summit. On his arrival, he said he was satisfied with the results of this conference which was particularly important to Chad. He stressed that the heads of state and government who attended the summit recognized the need to help Chad ensure the respect of its territorial integrity, and he said that this implied that foreign troops should withdraw from the country.

The Chadian head of state added that there was a strong awareness at the summit in Vittel of the stakes involved and of the gravity of the situation in Chad and recalled the need that was underlined at the summit to help Chad revive its economy and to safeguard its political independence. On the issue of national reconciliation in Chad, President Habre added that at the Vittel conference the question of the Chadian political and military factions was not discussed but what was brought up was the question of helping the Chadian Government rally around it all the Chadians who are truly patriotic and who want to go back to their country.

In Vittel, Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure said that the Chadian head of state appeared to be ready to hold discussion with all Chadians in order to arrive at a political reconciliation in Chad.

On his arrival, President Habre was welcomed by members of his government, the diplomatic corps, and political and military organizations, as well as by a large crowd in response to a call by the head of state's People's Committee for the FAN.

GUNT Issues Communique on Eve of Vittel Summit

AB080810 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Press communique issued by the Transitional National Union Government on the eve of the Vittel French-African summit — date and place not given]

[Text] France had justified its massive intervention in Chad by its concern to counter a so-called external aggression, namely, that of Libya, and by so doing, it said it wanted to ensure Chad's integrity without supporting any side in the strictly internal Chadian conflict. However, as days passed, we discovered the real aims of France. In fact, France has sent its armed contingents to Chad under the official cover of instructors and by doing so, it justified its action by invoking the 1979 agreements that have elapsed. On 13 August the French Government realized that the importance of its military intervention was far beyond the legal framework which was given to it, as the number of instructors had doubled that of the trainees. This is why the French Government tried to find another legal framework to justify its military presence in Chad. Thus, to avoid contradicting

its Third World supporter policy and to camouflage its Atlanticism and militarism, the French Government thought it could be both a judge and an involved party at the same time. France described its forces in Chad as buffer and peacekeeping forces. So they are there, in its view, to facilitate negotiations between the Chadian factions involved in the conflict. This is why it must be stressed that the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] has never been deceived by the real mission of the French troops in Chad.

In fact, contrary to the official thesis of the French Government, which consists of its claim that its troops are a buffer and peacekeeping force, their mission is rather aimed at preventing the collapse of the puppet Ndjamen regime and at halting the advance of the National Liberation Army and thus enabling the reorganization of the already defeated FAN in order to put it back on the scene. The cynical stand of the French Government has already been proved on several occasions with the raids of the French Air Force on the positions held by the National Liberation Army on 1 September 1983. By receiving the jailer of Francois Claustre, the assassin of Major Galopin, and the destroyer of the Chadian people's unity — officially and with all the honors given to a head of state — today, 29 September 1983, the French Government has not only deceived the French taxpayer, who is against the very high cost of maintaining these troops in Chad, but also ridiculed itself by practicing the same policy as that of the Reagan administration in Latin America, and in particular in El Salvador. This policy consists of imposing unpopular regimes on the people, which France has always condemned. It is to this dangerous game that we want to draw the attention of the French people. Any attempt to strengthen Habre on the political plane during the Vittel conference, after strengthening him militarily, will only result in further complicating the solution to the Chadian conflict, and France will bear a great responsibility if its protegee should ever revive the Chadian hotbed. Also, we must warn the African heads who espouse simplistic equations such as Hissein Habre equals Chad, against the danger which all of Africa may face if they dare impose a dictatorship on a people who have been fighting for more than 18 years in order to achieve a normal and democratic institutional life. However, we call upon all African heads of state of good will and those who gathered in Vittel to use their influence to present the Chadian problem objectively so as to lay the foundation for serious negotiations between the Chadian factions involved in the conflict, namely, the GUNT and the FAN, which will enable them to achieve an honorable political solution that is acceptable to all.

Bardai Radio Comments on Terms for Negotiations

AB072105 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Text] After the closing of the Vittel summit, comments are being made here and there on the outcome of the French-African summit. In the final analysis, the meeting did not have a framework in the interests of the French-African summit, but it provided a framework for a confrontation between the two antagonistic trends because of the Chadian question.

On the eve of the conference, were some voices not raised justly to warn against the manipulation of the delegates and the attempts to mislead them? It was with the view to stopping this unhealthy tendency that the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) thought it necessary to send a delegation led by its vice president, which tried — with documents as evidence — to convince the participants of the reasonableness of GUNT's stand. Commenting on the change of stand by the Ndjamena gang leader, Colonel Kamougue declared that though he appreciated the breakthrough by the master blackmailer Hissein Habre, one thing must be clear: If there is any negotiation, it must be between the GUNT and the FAN.

With this statement, the second in command of the GUNT has taken the lead of events. In fact, according to political calculations of imperialism and reaction, the door of eventual negotiations must also be open to new Chadian political trends based chiefly in France and financed and controlled by imperialist circles to further their aims. Negotiations are not the opening of an electoral list. Negotiations must, in our view, be limited to the forces in question on the ground. Therefore, there is no need to increase the number of those who are to take part in the negotiations.

As the leader of the antinational forces, he suggested that the talks be held in Ndjamena preferably and spoke of the return to Chad of political exiles and opponents. What is he talking about? If he is talking about the GUNT, the latter and its army are present on the 500,000 square meters of the liberated territory, excluding the others sectors of the center and the south where the FAN dare not go. Maybe the leader of the fascist clique in Ndjamena is referring to the opportunists who are agitating [word indistinct], to quote Colonel Kamougue. As for the venue for the discussions, we are curious to know whether the opponent would agree to come to Bardai, headquarters of the GUNT, for the dialogue. By proposing Ndjamena, the jailer of Franciose Claustre — who has just failed his promotion to legality — intends to give himself a weight and a political importance which he lacks.

On the return of exiles and opponents, he is just simply urging the GUNT to rally round his (illegal) and dictatorial order. As for his right-hand man, Idriss Miskine, who has just reappeared on the political scene, one wonders whether his thoughts are in line with those of his boss. He speaks of the implementation of the Frolinat's program. The FAN is doing exactly the opposite of this program. Such ideological and political paths demonstrate their close relationship with French and American imperialism, Zionism, and reactionary states of the continent, such as Zaïre, Sudan, Togo, and others.

Can one still claim to be a member of a revolutionary movement and yet team with the traditional enemies of the [word indistinct] revolution? Can one pretend to implement a revolutionary program and yet support the practice of personality cult of the sinister Hissein Habre and his dictatorial, bloody, and terrorist methods? If Idriss Miskine wants to be reasonable, let him give us the evidence of the difference between him and his leader. Truly, the FAN, of whom he is the second in command, is nothing but the Frolinat whose demagogic letter headings are used for their documents. The worst thing is that this criminal organiza-

tion of lawless evildoers has no political program beside the whims of its leader who has become unwanted.

AFP: Goukouni Ready To Meet Habre in Ndjamena

AB101510 Paris AFP in French 1434 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, 10 Oct (AFP) — Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), has said he is ready to go to Ndjamena to meet Hissein Habre if the French allow him to go along with his forces. Goukouni, who explained to AFP that he was in Tripoli to find out the results of the French-African summit in Vittel and of the mission to Paris of GUNT Vice President Wadal Abdelkader Kamougue, stressed, however, that this meeting would have to be held at a "government to government level under the mandate of the OAU."

According to Goukouni, "all depends on the French." "So long as they remain in Chad, Hissein Habre will not agree to hold honest discussions," he stated. "Hissein Habre also knows that he has the support of some so-called moderate countries. But the French cannot remain in Chad for 10 years. Sooner or later, they will fight us," said the GUNT president, who expressed "his concern" over such a possibility.

The GUNT president then criticized the Vittel summit, "which is not competent to solve African problems, and which constitutes an interference in OAU affairs." He also stated that a certain number of heads of state tried to legitimize the presence of French troops in Chad by a statement on Chad, which did not get a consensus among the participants. "That is why that summit is finally a failure," he said.

Preferring to reserve his intentions "before having analyzed the outcome of the Vittel conference and Mr Kamougue's contacts," Mr Goukouni reaffirmed that he has no confidence in Hissein Habre "aided by the United States" and whom "he considers as a rebel." The GUNT president finally stressed that he has never signed a cease-fire with France.

CONGO

Sassou-Nguesso Interviewed on Chad Situation

AB091035 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Text] At the Vittel summit, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso took the opportunity to reaffirm our position and reservations on major world issues. As the Chadian problem was the major issue examined at the conference, President Sassou-Nguesso told the international press our ("approach") to the solution of that problem. Everyone knows that our country's position is that the problem must be settled through negotiations involving all the parties concerned. In doing this, one cannot ignore the Chadians themselves.

[Begin recording][Sassou-Nguesso] In solving that problem, one cannot ignore the aspirations of Chadians themselves. All good intentions can only [words indistinct].

[Question by unidentified correspondent] Mr President, what do you think about the Guinean proposals [words indistinct]?

[Sassou-Nguesso] I think that the (?Guinean proposal is) a good initiative because during the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the revolution, I personally took the initiative to hold a meeting on the Chadian question and I made proposals. There was a (?resolution in Brazzaville) and you know about it. Since then I have been stepping up contacts aimed at making progress toward a negotiated settlement of the question. We can only uphold such a proposal because I personally made (?a similar one).

[Question by second unidentified correspondent] Do you think that a (?resolution) will be adopted at this meeting? Do you think that this meeting will result in a solution?

[Sassou-Nguesso] I think that the desire of everyone is to find a solution. Since yesterday this has been the preoccupation of every participant. For my part, I know that my recent meeting in Tripoli with President [as heard] al-Qadhdhafi and with President Goukouni of the Transitional National Union Government allowed me to feel that everyone agrees on finding a solution to the Chadian (?civil) war. [end recording]

GHANA

Libyan 'Troop Exchange' Program Postponed

AB101840 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT
10 Oct 83

[Text] The Ghana-Libya troop exchange program scheduled to begin today with the arrival in Accra of a contingent of Libyan troops has been postponed indefinitely. An Armed Forces press release said a new date for the program will be announced in due course.

AFP Reports Troop Arrival

AB101910 Paris AFP in French 1842 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] Accra, 10 October (AFP) — A contingent of 120 Libyan soldiers arrived in Ghana on Monday for jungle training purposes, a Ghanaian Armed Forces spokesman announced today. The same source pointed out that the Libyan forces will be stationed in the training academy at Achiasi in the eastern region.

Cuban Official Meets With Rawlings 7 October

AB080745 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT
8 Oct 83

[Text] Cuba's deputy foreign minister, Oscar Oramas, has called on progressive forces throughout the world to unite and fight against imperialist domination. Mr Oramas made the appeal when he met newsmen in Accra after a courtesy call on the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council, Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, yesterday.

Mr Oramas noted that detente is in danger because the imperialists are increasing their arms each day. On Ghana's revolution, he said he was convinced of the revolutionary process because he knows that Ghanaians are a proud people and want to make history instead of following it. He said he discussed with Flight Lt Rawlings measures that would further strengthen the relationship between Ghana and Cuba. Mr Oramas referred to Cuba's experience in the early stages of her revolution where there was a complete trade blockade. He recalled that such hurdles were put in their way by the imperialists to derail their revolution. The Cuban envoy said he was convinced that Ghana's revolution would succeed and that there's a lot to offer in the emancipation of Africa and Third World countries. The envoy has since left for home.

Ghana-Cuba Association Condemns U.S. Actions

AB090800 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT
8 Oct 83

[Text] The Ghana-Cuba Friendship Association has condemned U.S. continued criminal actions in Central and South America. A statement to mark the 16th anniversary of the death of Major Ernesto Che Guevara blamed American imperialists for his cruel murder in Bolivia as he was fighting to help free other countries

from imperialist domination. The statement salutes his family and those thousands of fighters throughout Latin America and elsewhere who are continuing the struggle he effectively waged.

NIGER

Further on Attempted Coup d'Etat in Niamey**More on Kountche Speech**

AB071830 Paris AFP in French 1646 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Text] Niamey, 7 Oct (AFP) — Niger's President Seyni Kountche revealed on Friday the identity and positions of the main authors of the coup attempt which was foiled in Niamey on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning — while he was still in Paris after attending the France-African summit in Vittel — and which he said caused one death. According to observers, they are officers and civilians who had his total trust and who had close ties to him. In the radio address, President Kountche stated among the instigators of the coup attempt were Lieutenant Amadou Oumaro, alias Bonkano, of the Gendarmerie, and his special security adviser, Lieutenant Idrissa Amadou, a presidential guard charged with the president's personal security; Major Amadou Seydou, the commander of the Niamey battalion of the Nigerois Armed Forces; and Lieutenant Sidikou, an officer in the Gendarmerie. The head of state noted that the world, since it is the world and so long as it remains such, will be composed of such betrayals.

Mahamane Sidikou, a civilian, former television director, and private secretary to the prime minister, had written three communiques to be read on the radio once the coup succeeded, Kountche said. These were to announce the takeover by a Nigerois People Defense Council and the overthrow of the Supreme Military Council (CMS), which has been in power since April 1974 and which is headed by General Kountche. The head of state stressed that the heavy automatic gunfire heard for several hours on Wednesday night and Thursday morning around the presidency and the headquarters of the Armed Forces was not from clashes between the putschists and loyal forces. He said that the night's events only caused one death, a civilian motorcyclist who did not obey a summons by soldiers. Four soldiers were injured, one by accident.

President Kountche said that several instigators of the action were on the run, mainly Lt Oumaro Amadou, Lt Idrissa Amadou, and Captain Hamar Bocar, head of the Housing and Equipment Service. He also emphasized that investigations are underway to determine the real people behind this affair, and especially if any hidden hands can be found in this destabilization action. The attempted coup was carefully prepared. Gen Kountche said on Wednesday night Lt Amadou Oumarou and his accomplices neutralized Lieutenant Colonel Ali Seibou, the chief of staff of the Armed Forces; Captain Moussa Hassane, the commander of the Republican Guard; Major Youssoufa Maiga, the commander of the Gendarmerie, and his deputy; and Captain Moussa Djermakoye, the commander of the Tondibia training center — several kilometers north of the capital — by drawing them into a trap.

At about 0200 Thursday morning, the commander of the Niamey battalion of the Armed Forces, Major Amadou Seydou, one of the coup plotters, hinted to the deputy chief of staff, Major Toumba Boubacar, that the Gendarmerie was going to take some action. Amadou Seydou had the presidential guard block access to the presidential area in order to prevent elements of the army from approaching, and then tried to contact Niamey paratroopers.

President Kountche said that Major Toumba, who foiled an attempt to provoke clashes between the different elements of the Armed Forces, ordered the arrest of the commander of the Niamey Battalion and took control of operations. President Kountche paid tribute in his address to the deputy chief of staff and to the National Armed Forces, who he stressed had demonstrated their loyalty and commitment to the Nigerois people.

The putschists had the assistance of the head of the telecommunications center, who cut the telephone lines on Wednesday evening so that no one could transmit the news about the events to Paris, the head of state further said. President Kountche said he was warned early Wednesday evening by an officer in Niamey that something was happening. But he was not able to telephone his country that evening nor the next morning before reaching Algeria, where he was informed of events. Soon after, the telephone lines were reestablished with Niamey at approximately 1030. President Kountche deplored the cupidity of this coup attempt, asserting that none of the instigators had the ability to assume supreme responsibilities. Shocked, the head of state felt that the had been betrayed and deceived because of his honesty, his trust, and his excessive sincerity, which could seem like naivete.

Mamane Concerned About Effects

AB102030 Paris AFP in French 1823 GMT Oct 83

[Text] Niamey, 10 October (AFP) — According to an official statement, Niger Prime Minister Oumarou Mamane expressed concern today over the effect the foiled coup d'etat on the night of 5 and morning of 6 October could have on "the excellent relations of cooperation existing between Niger and all its foreign partners." The prime minister, who received members of the diplomatic corps and representatives of international organizations accredited to Niger at the Entente Council Building, officially briefed them on the circumstances leading to this coup attempt and described it as "an act of high treason." Mr Mamane told the diplomats that a thorough investigation is being conducted into the matter.

He asked the diplomats to consider that the situation has been "permanently restored to normal," and according to the statement, he "drew" their attention to the fact that "Niger would strive to further develop its political, economic, and social relations in order to peacefully continue on the path it has chosen, which is that of national development, with a view to ensuring the well-being of the Niger people."

Education Minister, Others Arrested

AB111020 Paris AFP in English 1015 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] Niamey, Oct 11 (AFP) — Niger's education minister, Captain Mahamane Ousseini, and his deputy, Modiel Amadou, have been arrested in connection with the attempted coup last week, an informed source said today. The sources said that several leading officials from a number of ministries have also been arrested for alleged complicity in the attempt to topple President Seyni Kountche on the night of October 5. He was in France for the Franco-African summit at the time.

Demonstrations Support Kountche

AB101450 Paris AFP in French 1329 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] Niamey, 10 Oct (AFP) — According to reports on Monday in Niamey, many marches in support of President Seyni Kountche and of the Supreme Military Council (CMS) (in power since 15 April 1974), were held throughout Niger during the weekend. According to correspondents from the local radio, following the coup attempt that was foiled from the evening of 5 to 6 October, marches of support were held by social, professional, and cultural associations mainly in Agadez, Zinder, Maradi, Diffa, and Tahoua. The demonstrators marched shouting "Death to traitors" and "Down with unpatriotic and corrupt people." Their banners condemned those who tried to "lead the country to chaos after 10 years of peace, stability, and progress." The local radio and the daily *Le Sahel* cited numerous messages of support for the president sent by Niger ambassadors residing abroad, heads of departments and associations, and by plain citizens.

According to reliable source, the investigation is continuing to find the "brain," the associates, and accomplices behind the coup attempt. Among them are mainly Lieutenant Oumaro Amadou, alias "Bonkano," of the Gendarmerie, and Lieutenant Idrissa Amadou, the special security advisor to the presidency and the commander of the presidential guard. According to some sources, the latter was able to escape to Upper Volta.

NIGERIA

Libyan Official Arrives for Talks With Shagari

AB100815 Paris AFP in French 0713 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] Lagos, 10 Oct (AFP) — Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary al-Ubaydi arrived in the Nigerian capital on Sunday, a reliable source announced in Lagos. The minister, who was coming from Paris, is scheduled to hold talks on Monday with Nigerian head of state Shehu Shagari, this source said.

ANGOLA

Jorge Addresses Nonaligned Delegates at UN

MB080901 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Text] In New York, Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge has in recent days discussed the political and military situation in the People's Republic of Angola at a time when imperialist forces are launching their attacks against our country with utmost intensity.

In a speech made at UN Headquarters to representatives of nonaligned countries participating in the 38th session of the United Nations, the Angolan foreign minister called on the international community to render material and financial support to Angola to enable it to counter the imperialist offensive. Thus, Comrade Paulo Jorge stressed the aggravation of tension in the southern region of the African Continent, particularly in our country, which is being attacked by the South African Army and destabilized by the criminal actions of the UNITA puppets.

Pretoria's aim of destabilization, by invading and occupying over the past 2 years a large part of Cunene Province, was once again condemned by Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge. He also pointed out that these external armed attacks and the acts of sabotage which completely destroy economic installations and ("machines") are part of the overall strategy of imperialism vis-a-vis southern Africa and most particularly a state which has opted for the socialist path of life, the People's Republic of Angola.

The Angolan foreign minister also stressed that the objective of the destabilization offensive is to install a neocolonial regime in Angola and thereby liquidate the process of the accession of Namibia to independence.

In his speech at the meeting of the representatives of nonaligned countries in New York, Comrade Paulo Jorge recalled that the last summit of the nonaligned countries held in New Delhi condemned the acts of aggression on and destabilization of Angola and called for the withdrawal of South African troops from its southern region. It also called for the application of UN Resolution 435 and the cessation of maneuvers aimed at conditioning the independence of Namibia to the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola.

Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge gave an interview 2 days ago to several UN radio reporters in which he stressed the same points and reiterated the support of the Angolan people for the revolutionary vanguards of the Namibian and South African peoples, SWAPO and ANC respectively.

We note that the Angolan foreign minister will address on 11 October the participants of the 38th UN session currently under way in New York.

The foreign minister will visit Portugal 13 and 14 October at the invitation of Portuguese Foreign Minister Jaime Gama. During the visit, which will start the day after the official visit of the Mozambique president to Portugal ends, Comrade Paulo Jorge

and Jaime Gama will discuss issues relating to relations between the two countries.

Cuban Attorney General Begins 8-Day Visit

MB080932 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Text] The Cuban attorney general, Dr Idalberto Guevara Quintana, arrived in Luanda yesterday on an 8-day visit to our country at the invitation of Dr (Antero de Abreu), attorney general of the People's Republic of Angola. Yesterday, following a previously established program, Dr Idalberto Quintana was received by Comrade Bernardo de Sousa, first national secretary of the People's Assembly, with whom he discussed the sector that the national secretary heads after touring the offices of People's Assembly and the 10 December Hall. Later the Cuban delegation visited the Luanda Appeal Court, where it was received by Dr (Maria do Carmo Vendina), acting presiding judge, and other judges of the court. The Cuban delegation then held a meeting which was attended by the Angolan attorney general and magistrates of the attorney general's office. Dr Idalberto Guevara Quintana will also be received by the secretary of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party for state and judicial bodies, Henrique Santos Onanbue, and the minister of justice, Comrade Diogenes de Boavida. This afternoon there will be a meeting between Angolan and Cuban delegations at the office of the attorney general.

150 Soviet Doctors Reportedly Work in Country

AB110830 Luanda ANGOP in French 1750 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] Moscow, 10 Oct (ANGOP) — More than 150 Soviet doctors work in the People's Republic of Angola under the complex conditions existing in the country, particularly in the fight against epidemics and in the treatment of the sick and the wounded victims of South Africa's continued aggressions, it has been learned from the Soviet capital.

Over the past years Soviet doctors have treated more than 2 million Angolans. They have carried out more than 90 surgical operations and have contributed efficiently toward the organization and consolidation of the Angolan public health system by using new methods of medical examination and treating the sick.

These Soviet doctors, the source continues, are engaged in preventive campaigns against some diseases and educate the people on sanitation and hygiene.

28-30 Sep Actions, Military Call-Ups Reported

MB071109 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Text] The operations which are in progress against the armed bandits in the service of racist South Africa, namely, in the Provinces of Benguela, Huambo, and Bie, resulted in the deaths of 40 bandits and the capture of 13 in the last 3 days of September. A total of 150 civilians have also been released, and variety of military equipment captured. This was disclosed yes-

terday by sources in the Ministries of Defense and State Security. The same sources said that on 28 September the enemy suffered four casualties and that one woman and a child were rescued in an action carried out by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola (FAPLA) in an area near Capupa village, some 40 km south of the municipality of Cuba, Benguela Province. In this operation one G-3 rifle, four different magazines, and one handgrenade were captured.

On 29 September FAPLA forces repelled an enemy attack in the Cuemba area of Bie Province, resulting in the death of 17 bandits and the capture of 2 G-3's, 1 RPK machinegun, and 1 RPG-7. On the same day People's Defense Organization forces destroyed an enemy base some 50 km southeast of Cuito. In Huambo Province on 30 September FAPLA forces clashed twice with UNITA puppet groups in the areas of Vila Nova and Mungo municipalities. In the first clash FAPLA forces put 14 bandits out of action and captured 1 bandit, 2 weapons, 12 shells, and 1 magazine.

In Mungo FAPLA forces killed five bandits and captured one grenade and one RPG-7 shell. It is regrettable that one FAPLA combatant was wounded. On the same day FAPLA forces also destroyed two enemy bases, one of which was at the Mungo municipality as stated earlier, while the other was situated at Huambo municipality. In these actions the Angolan Armed Forces recovered 148 civilians, including 14 collaborators of the puppet gangs. The enemy suffered four casualties.

The combative spirit that has been displayed in the military actions against the armed gangs is in keeping with the readiness shown by Angolan youth when they voluntarily presented themselves at military registration posts countrywide. In response to the appeal made by the commander in chief of FAPLA, hundreds of youths of Cabinda Province have already presented themselves at the posts indicated by the regional military command with a view to joining FAPLA. (Joao da Costa Domingos), chief of the Cabinda recruitment center, told ANGOP that the youth of Cabinda are ready to defend the country at any time in view of the imperialist escalation against the sovereignty of the People's Republic of Angola. The residents of Cacuco municipality affected by the call-up notice will continue to present themselves in Luanda until 1800 today. From Luanda they will be subsequently sent to the areas where they will undergo military training.

In other provinces large numbers of students, workers, and peasants are registering with the Angolan Armed Forces so that the gains already achieved by our people can be preserved. Reports by ANGOP and regional radio stations say that large numbers of youths are presenting themselves at the recruitment centers in the Provinces of Bengo, Huila, and Cuanza Sul. As in 1975, at the time of the South African invasion of our country, the Angolan youth show that they are ready to respond to the notice issued by the Ministry of Defense regarding military service. The enrollment of young people in FAPLA ranks will help strengthen our Army in the struggle against the South African invaders, who insist on occupying part of Cunene Province, and the UNITA armed groups, which have suffered heavy casualties over the past few days.

Lunada Reports UNITA Captures 3 in Huambo

*MB101012 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 10 Oct 83*

[Text] UNITA puppet gangsters recently carried out another criminal act against the residents of (Likuma) municipality in Huambo Province, during which they captured three people, two young men, and one teacher, wounded one individual, stole foodstuff and clothes, and destroyed two houses.

BOTSWANA

Masire Visits Site of Zimbabwean Incursion

*MB10926 Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail in English
11 Oct 83 p 1*

[By Norman Chandler]

[Text] The President of Botswana, Dr Quett Masire, has gone to his country's North East Province to personally investigate a Zimbabwean troop incursion — in its ninth day — in the area. He is accompanied by Botswana Defense Force and Police officials, including the country's highest-ranking officers, amid strong indications that Botswana troops may have made contact with the invasion force.

The visit was confirmed yesterday by a spokesman in Francistown for the Officer Commanding No. 1 District, Botswana Police. The President's visit is scheduled to last three days and he is due back in his office in Gaborone on Thursday.

This is believed to be the first time President Masire has personally visited areas where across-border violations, particularly involving Zimbabwean troops, have taken place. According to information given to the *Rand Daily Mail* yesterday, the visit is "indicative of the concern with which the Botswana Government views the incident."

The Zimbabweans' last known position, on Saturday, was in dense bush country 30 km south of Buthale's village, about 75 km from the Botswana-Zimbabwe border, according to sources in Gaborone. Buthale's village is on the main "refugee road" to Dukwe camp, near Francistown, where 3,300 refugees — many from Zimbabwe — are housed.

The *Mail* was told yesterday that contact "had probably been made" with the Zimbabweans but, because of poor communications, there was no indication that fighting was continuing. The Zimbabweans are believed to be heading for Dukwe. Refugees there have consistently refused to leave the camp and return to their homeland for fear of reprisals by Zimbabwean officials.

On Friday, the Zimbabwe Government claimed to have no knowledge of a border violation and said its troops were not involved. However, reports reaching Francistown said Zimbabwean troops were dropped by helicopters near Buthale's village on Sunday afternoon, October 2, and entered the village at 4 pm that day. The helicopters returned to Zimbabwe.

Villagers were beaten up but so far it has not been possible to ascertain whether anyone was killed. The troops — numbering about 40 — are understood to have entered other villages as well. According to villagers, the invading troops — thought to be members of the North Korean-trained 5th Brigade — have told them they are looking for dissidents who have fled Zimbabwe. The dissidents are members of Mr Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU party.

Government officials in Gaborone were unable to give any information as to President Masire's whereabouts yesterday.

SOUTH AFRICA

SADF Spokesman Denies Zimbabwe Sabotage Charge

MB080656 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Text] The Zimbabwean Government has shown newsmen two blacks who it claims were captured while on a mission to blow up fuel tanks at Beit bridge. The two men were presented at a news conference in Harare yesterday by the minister of state security, Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa. He said the men had been given 30 days in which to complete their mission. It has also been claimed that the men entered Zimbabwe from South Africa.

In Pretoria a spokesman for the SADF [South Africa Defense Force] has said that it is not the first time that Zimbabwe has made such a claim. He dismissed the claim as a form of anti-South African propaganda.

SWAZILAND

Prince Alleges Plot To Kill Ligoqo Members

MB100543 Mbabane The Times of Swaziland in English
10 Oct 83 p 1

[By Times reporter]

[Text] Hired gunmen are out to kill members of the Supreme Council of State (Ligoqo), Prince Mfanasibili said at the weekend. He said he had information that certain people had hired hit-men to gun him and his Ligoqo colleagues down. Addressing chiefs in Lobamba, Prince Mfanasibili said: "I know that gunmen have been hired to shoot and kill us. That may be the case, but I want to sound a word of warning. We will meet bitter medicine with bitter medicine, force with force."

"You are not vulnerable either, or are you? Try it and you will find five of your number shot and killed before you know what hit you. We have always expected something like this and we are always ready. Just in case you think you are rocks we blast rocks with dynamite. You know what we do. If you send lightning to me I'll send lightning back and hit you on the face." He warned.

Speaking earlier, Prime Minister Prince Bhekimpimpi said certain members of the Royal Family had asked for military intervention from a certain white government in the dispute over the removal of Queen Dzeliwe. He did not name the country and did not say whether it was in Africa or Europe. He charged that the princes

had asked for foreign troops on instructions from the ousted Queen Dzeliwe when the feuding was still hot, soon after she had been deposed. He said the foreign power refused to send troops as it was an internal matter.

Prince Bhekimpimpi said another chief from Swaziland had gone to Army Commander Colonel Mangomeni Ndimandze, asking him to send troops to the palace to defend the former Queen Regent. "Col Mangomeni refused because the royal dispute was not his size. Royal power struggles are nothing new and only the King's sons are involved. Are you all so talkative because you think you are sons of the late king?" he asked. He further charged that when he visited Mozambique recently, he was told that some desperate princes had come "panting" asking President Machel to send in Frelimo troops. "But Machel refused. He told me that it was his policy not to cooperate militarily with small groups of troublemakers." He said.

Plotters Named

MB110633 Mbabane The Swazi Observer in English
10 Oct 83 pp 1,11

[Observer reporter Donny Nxumalo]

[Text] The Prime Minister, Prince Bhekimpimpi, yesterday said that deposed Queen Regent, Inkhosikati Dzeliwe, sent her supporters to a "foreign country" to get military assistance to overthrow the de-facto government. The Prime Minister, who was speaking at a meeting at Lobamba did not name the foreign country. However, the supporters were disappointed when the "foreign country" refused to take part in the scheme and reported the matter to the Swazi Government, he said.

Following the "Mission Impossible," four people who were involved in the plot, lawyer Douglas Lukhele, former Principal Secretary for Agriculture and Co-operatives, Mr Arthur Khoza, Prince Sulumlomo and Prince Thunduluka were detained. "There are a lot more than that," the Prime Minister said: "We are watching them to make more slips so that they will stay in custody for a long time. We fear that if we grab them now, they will get off with light sentences in court."

He said: "There are a lot of things happening in Swaziland that people think we are not aware of. Recently a white man told that some people had visited his country to ask for arms of war. The white man said these people claimed they had been sent by the Old Grandmother. "But thank God, that country refused, otherwise, the story would be different by now. If the conspirators had been successful, we would be having a completely different police and army forces."

"When I went to Mozambique, I also learnt that immediately after former Prime Minister, Prince Mabandla got out of office, some people visited that country to ask for arms and wage war against the present government," he said. "As I said before, we know most of these people. The most prominent figure in the group was Mr Khoza, who was ill-advising the Old Grandmother. During her term of office, he never left the Indlunkhulu. He was seen in and out of here at Lobamba to the extent that I was once asked what he was up to."

"These people started a long time ago, during the premiership of Mabandla. A lot of things were nearly destroyed by them. Of late, we have witnessed children marching to distribute pamphlets. Every Swazi who is seen distributing the pamphlets will be brought to book. I would assure you now that a lot of things are still to be exposed. You just wait and leave everything to the Emalangeni [senior princes], who will fix everything. We know there has been a lot of contention to the Crown of Swaziland by people who say Umntfwana is still too young to take up his position," Prince Bhekimpi said.

Agriculture Secretary Dismissed

MB080811 *Mbabane The Swazi News in English* 8 Oct 83 p 1

[By *Times* reporter]

[Text] The Permanent Secretary for Agriculture, Mr Arthur R.V. Khoza, has been sacked. Mr Khoza is currently being held at Matsapa Central Prison as a 60 days detainee. The announcement is carried in the latest government gazette under the heading: "Removal from office of permanent secretary."

The dismissal is with effect from August 22 which was the date he was picked up from home. Mr Khoza is being sacked by the Authorised person, Prince Sozisa. The gazette states that Prince Sozisa is removing Mr Khoza in exercise of powers delegated on him by the Queen Regent Ntombi and in "accordance with Section 8 of the Civil Service Order, 1973."

Dissident Chiefs Warned

MB100618 *Mbabane The Times of Swaziland in English* 10 Oct 83 pp 1, 16

[By *Times* reporter]

[Text] The Authorised Person, Prince Sozisa, has issued a stern warning against dissident chiefs. Speaking in Lobamba in a meeting with all the Kingdom's chiefs, Prince Sozisa said there would be a witch-hunt to find all those chiefs and members of the royal family who were involved in the recent unrest. They would all be purged and replaced by loyal chiefs and Indunas [local headmen], he said.

"I cannot be working with my enemies," Prince Sozisa said. All those who were opposed to Queen Regent Ntombi in support of ousted Queen Dzeliwe would get the chop wherever they were. In fact they would be bashed to death as it was done in the past (bafakwe umphini), he said. "Some of you call me names. In case you think I will get scared and run so that you can take over, you've got it all wrong. I'm staying here until the Crown Prince comes of age and he will take his seat. Then I will go back to Gundwini where I belong," Prince Sozisa said. "I was placed where I am by the King and will not be frightened by anything," he said. "I am Sozisa, the Prince of Gundwini. I have no qualms about that and I don't care what you say."

Prince Sozisa referred to an affidavit made by Chief Dambuzi Lukhele and submitted in the High Court during the application

by the ousted former Queen Regent Dzeliwe asking for an order declaring her removal as illegal and the appointment of Queen Ntombi declared null and void and rescinded. Chief Dambuzi, in his affidavit, said he was speaking on behalf of the majority of chiefs in Swaziland and supported Queen Dzeliwe. Prince Sozisa, Prince Bhekimpi, members of the Likoqo and other speakers bitterly attacked Chief Dambuzi's stand and they said appropriate action would be taken against him.

The chiefs were then asked to speak one by one to declare their stand on the issue. "If your stand is a certain direction, you know obviously what that means and what happens as a consequence," Prince Sozisa said. The chiefs lined up and all those who spoke declared their loyalty to the authorities of the day and called for action to be taken against Chief Dambuzi. All said Chief Dambuzi never even approached them. Some, however, said they had been approached by some members of the Royal Family to take a stand against the authorities, but they refused.

What some of the chiefs said: "Chief Siyaluza Mabuza of Ejubkweni: "I want him locked up. How can he say is speaking on our behalf when he never even came to me? What are police doing?" Chief Loyiwe Maziya of Mapungane: "He must name the chiefs he spoke to, he cannot just include all of us in a thing like this." Chief Nkundla of Guquka: "People say all sorts of things about chiefs. Even if we are innocent they say we do this and that; some say we even perpetrate ritual murders to make ourselves feared." Chief Tsekwane: "Two Princes came to me and called me to a meeting they said we had been called by the Indvuna. I told them to go away because I am not called by Indvunas to their meetings. I am only called by the monarch. We have been patient for far too long, it's time to take rough action now." Chief Matimlane Nhlabatsi of Ekulameni: "We are being smeared with pig's fat, and we won't have this." Chief Skonjane Dlamini of Kaphunga: "I don't know whether this is good or bad luck, but no one came to me about this. My skin shrinks because I am loyal to the authorities."

Also speaking during the meeting, Counsellor Khalalempi Mndebele attacked those who have been accusing Prince Sozisa of trying to usurp power for himself. "Some say Sozisa wanted to take incwala to Egundwini [change venue of national celebration] and to see that being taken to Mbebeleni by Mfanisibili or that Bhekimpi was taking it to Enkaba. What nonsense is all this?" he said. Counsellor Mndebele, referring to former Queen Dzeliwe, said: "Gogo wanted to delay the elections. The constitution says elections can be delayed only if the country is at war with a foreign state. She even took the Likoqo to court, something which is never done. Before she was deposed she was doing everything on her own and not consulting the Libandla. She was being defiant to everybody including her fathers and mothers-in-law (Bekhakhakhe).

"What sort of wife defies her in laws? She came to Emphaktsi to marry (Atokwendza) not to rule. If she is given power by her in-laws that is fair enough but when they decide to take it away, she must accept it, she is a woman," he said. "Can you tell me what sort of monarch rules without a council and with no parliament? It's chaos." He added.

Parliament Dissolved; Elections To Be Held

*MB100859 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT
9 Oct 83*

[Text] The authorized person, Prince Sozisa, today has dissolved parliament, including the electoral college. Addressing several thousand people outside the cattle byre at Lobamba royal residence today, the authorized person congratulated the outgoing members of parliament. However, Prince Sozisa cited that among the outgoing MP's, some were already disloyal.

Speaking at the same occasion, the prime minister, Prince Bhekimp, also congratulated the MP's for the wonderful work they have done during their 5-year period. The prime minister said they should go home with a feeling of having done a good job for the country. The indvuna yetikundla [head of parliamentary constituencies], Mr Mdeni Shabalala, gave a brief report about the coming general elections, which will held on Friday, 28 October this year, which will be a public holiday in Swaziland.

The meeting, which started yesterday, discussed the removal from office of former Prime Minister Prince Mabandla and the removal from the regency of former Queen Regent Dzeliwe. The meeting also discussed an article from a local newspaper concerning chiefs in the country. The article was written by Chief Dambuza Lukhele on behalf of all chiefs throughout the country.

ZAMBIA**Kaunda Files Nomination Papers, Addresses Crowd**

*MB071416 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT
7 Oct 83*

[Text] President Kaunda filed his nomination for presidential candidature today at the Lusaka High Court, which was witnessed by the first lady, Madam Kaunda; the party secretary general, Humphrey Mulemba; Prime Minister Nalumino Munda, the secretary of state for defense and security, Mr Gray Zulu; and other party and government officials.

Dr Kaunda paid his 500 kwacha nomination fee to the chief justice, Annel Silungwe, after filing his nomination papers. The chief justice accepted Dr Kaunda's nomination. Later, addressing thousands of Lusaka residents outside the Lusaka High Court building, Mr Mulemba described Dr Kaunda's filing of nomination as a milestone in Zambia's democratic development. He said the event was a culmination of the ninth United National Independence Party [UNIP] general conference, which, after reviewing the party's past performance, decided to elect Dr Kaunda as party president unopposed and declared him the sole presidential candidate for the 27 October elections.

Soon after filing his nomination papers, Dr Kaunda reiterated his commitment to do his utmost to serve the 6 million Zambians. He also, however, cautioned that he may confront hardships in his task to serve the people effectively, resulting in errors and mistakes, which, he said, would not be deliberate. He stressed that the weaknesses which may surface in his contributions to national development would be due to the fact that as a human being he was not infallible. He told the well-wishers to keep in

touch with the mass media because he would be discussing national problems with members of the press in the next few days.

Dr Kaunda also directed all church leaders to organize special prayers for rain on 16 October to end the drought spell which has hit the country in recent years. The spell in the productive areas for the past 3 years has caused devastation to farmers' efforts to produce more food. The president said it was vital to pray for good rains in the 1983-84 season to effectively battle hunger, which results in diseases and several other evils. Dr Kaunda said that Zambia has gone through thick and thin in overcoming numerous problems with God's help.

After lodging his nomination papers, the president visited the mass media complex and was interviewed on a special Sunday interview to be televised on Sunday evening. Dr Kaunda was given a rousing welcome by the workers of the mass media complex and met by member of the Central Committee responsible for elections and publicity, Wilson Chakulya; permanent secretary in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Services, Mr Edward (Lubinda), the acting director general of ZBS, Reverend (Roger Monde); the ZANA editor in chief, Humphrey Muwanga; and the Zambia Information Services director, (Daniel Kapai).

ZIMBABWE**Mugabe Threatens To Confiscate UK Settler Land**

*MB090737 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT
9 Oct 83*

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has warned that his government will confiscate all British settler land if the British Government refuses to pay for it. Addressing a large crowd at Makosa village in Mtoko yesterday, the prime minister said he has heard the government of Margaret Thatcher will not give more money to Zimbabwe to buy land owned by British settlers.

Comrade Mugabe said Zimbabweans will not be taxed to pay for that land. He strongly criticized the British Government for interfering in Zimbabwe's internal affairs and said that even if it is small, Zimbabwe will resist such interference. Comrade Mugabe asked why Margaret Thatcher spoke loudly about the release of the air force men yet her government kept quiet about the detentions of African nationalists by the Smith regime.

Earlier, Comrade Mugabe who had opened a \$215,000 piped water scheme in Makosa village, said it is government policy to make potable water more readily available to the rural people. He said the scheme will serve about 2,000 people. The prime minister urged the people to prepare for the coming rainy season, adding that next year's maize price will be higher than the current one.

Speaking at a prize-giving ceremony at Nyaderi Mission, Comrade Mugabe denounced the concept of F-2 schools introduced during the colonial days.

RSA-Backed 'Bandits' Presented to Journalists

*MB080827 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT
8 Oct 83*

[Text] Two bandits who received military training in racist South Africa have confessed to the killing of eight people and the planning to kill a government minister when he addressed a rally in Matebeleland. The two, Watson Sibanda, age 16, and Spar Mapula, age 18, were shown to the press in Harare yesterday by the minister of state responsible for security, Comrade Emmer-son Munangagwa.

The two freely told newsmen that they had been told by their authorities in racist South Africa to kill five farmers because they produced food which feeds supporters of the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe. They said after receiving military training at (Entabeni) in Louis Trichart, South Africa, they were deployed into Zimbabwe and instructed to blow up fuel tanks at

Beit bridge. Sibanda and Mapula admitted to taking part in the destruction of government equipment in Matebeleland, murdering a policeman, and of attacking an Army base in Gwanda. The two, who said they were trained by both black and white officers who spoke English, Shona, and Ndebele, have named some of the officers who include a former member of the United African National Congress auxiliary forces, another former auxiliary officer, and a former member of the Zimbabwean Central Intelligence Organization.

Comrade Munagagwa told newsmen that Zimbabweans trained in South Africa are often sent to Namibia and Angola for combat experience, although the pretested were not sent there. He said that two others were arrested but were not in Harare. [Harare Domestic Service in English at 0600 GMT on 8 October adds: "They told newsmen that they had planned to murder the minister of legal and parliamentary affairs when he addressed a rally in Gwanda early this year."]